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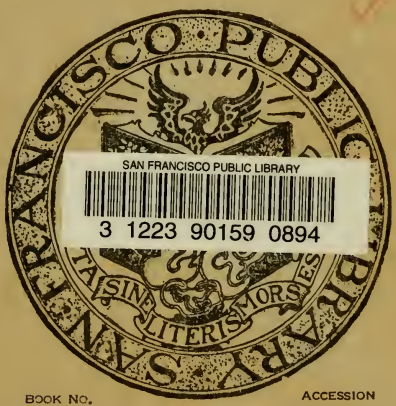

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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE
ANNA L. SAYLOR, Director

MEXICANS IN CALIFORNIA

REPORT OF

Governor C. C. Young's Mexican Fact-Finding Committee

State Building, San Francisco, California
October, 1930

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MEXICANS IN CALIFORNIA

REPORT OF

Governor C. C. Young's Mexican Fact-Finding Committee

PART I

IMMIGRATION, POPULATION, AND NATURALIZATION

(Prepared by the Department of Industrial Relations)

WILL J. FRENCH, Director

CHAPTER I—MEXICAN IMMIGRATION BEFORE AND SINCE THE QUOTA RESTRICTION LAW

CHAPTER II—THE FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION OF CALIFORNIA

CHAPTER III—NATURALIZATION OF MEXICANS

PART II

MEXICANS IN INDUSTRIES AND IN NONAGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS

(Prepared by the Department of Industrial Relations)

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(Prepared by the Department of Agriculture)

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ANNA L. SAYLOR, Director

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(Prepared by the Department of Industrial Relations)

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

His Excellency, C. C. YOUNG, Governor,
State of California,
Sacramento, California.

SIR:

We have the honor of handing you herewith the report of your Mexican Fact-Finding Committee.

Respectfully,

WILL J. FRENCH, Chairman,
ANNA L. SAYLOR,
GEORGE H. HECKE.

September, 1930.

A WORD OF PREFACE

The following report will unquestionably rank as one of the most exhaustive and most valuable ever issued by any of the Departments of the California state government. It is the outgrowth of discussions respecting Mexican problems, which took place at meetings of the Governor's Council during the early part of 1928.

As a result of these discussions, the Directors of the Department of Industrial Relations, Agriculture, and Social Welfare were, at the Council meeting of March 28, 1928, directed to prepare a report of a fact-finding nature and noncontroversial in character, a report designed to show the actual existing conditions as to the Mexican population in California. Mr. Will J. French, Director of the Department of Industrial Relations, was made the chairman of the committee of three department directors to whom this work was entrusted.

As will be noted from a reading of the report, its preparation has involved the gathering of a vast quantity of statistical information; and this, together with the fact that it could be prepared only as opporunity offered in conjunction with the regular work of the various departments, has delayed its publication until now.

I have just finished reading the proof of the report, and wish to congratulate Mr. French, Mr. Hecke, and Mrs. Saylor upon the care and thoroughness used in its preparation, and the fair-minded and impartial attitude with which this admittedly controversial subject has been treated. Like other immigration problems which have preceded it, the Mexican problem is of such importance as to justify the utmost of thoughtful care in its solution; but it can be properly solved only with a full knowledge of all the facts, and to help supply these facts is the object of this report.

Although the people of California are primarily interested in this problem from the standpoint of the best interests of our own state, nevertheless from its very nature it can be settled only by national legislation. I therefore commend this report, not only to the people of our own state, but to all others who may have a part in determining the necessity and scope of such future legislation.

C. C. Young,
Governor State of California.

August 17, 1930.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Mexican Fact-Finding Committee wishes hereby to acknowledge its indebtedness to the following investigators who contributed to this report:

Louis Bloch, Statistician of the Department of Industrial Relations, wrote Parts I and II, Chapters I to VII, pp. 17–150, and the Section on "The Mexican Family; Its Size and Its Income," pp. 209–215.

R. L. Adams, Professor of Farm Management, College of Agriculture, of the University of California, wrote Part III, pp. 153–171.

Helen V. Bary, Statistician of the Department of Social Welfare, wrote Part IV, pp. 175–207.

THE MEXICAN FACT-FINDING COMMITTEE,

WILL J. FRENCH, Chairman,
ANNA L. SAYLOR,
GEORGE H. HECKE.

INTRODUCTION

The Mexican Fact-Finding Committee was appointed by Governor C. C. Young on March 28, 1928. The Governor named on this committee the following three members of his Council: Will J. French, Director of the Department of Industrial Relations, chairman; Anna L. Saylor, Director of the Department of Social Welfare, and George H. Hecke, Director of the Department of Agriculture.

It was the expressed wish of the Governor that the committee confine itself to the preparation and presentation of a report which would contain only *facts* relating to the industrial, social and agricultural aspects of the problem of Mexican immigration into California. The gathering of biased and partisan views was declared to be outside of the scope of the committee's work.

Mindful of the Governor's wishes in the matter, and being fully in accord with them, the committee instructed its investigators carefully to discriminate between opinions and conclusions based upon divergent social and economic interests and views and dispassionate *factual evidence,* stripped of all partisanship.

At its organization meeting, which took place soon after its appointment, the committee decided that each of the three state departments represented should make independent studies of the problems with which they were most familiar and which they were therefore best equipped and qualified to investigate and study.

Since there was no special legislative appropriation for the investigations of the Mexican Fact-Finding Committee, it devolved upon the Departments of Industrial Relations, Agriculture, and Social Welfare to draw upon their regular resources of time and money to undertake and complete this work, a fact which is largely responsible for the time taken in the preparation of this report. The Department of Agriculture had secured the cooperation of the College of Agriculture of the University of California in the preparation of its contribution to this report.

In submitting this joint report, the Mexican Fact-Finding Committee feels that the data presented were prepared by its investigators with utmost care and without reference to the possible use to which these data may be put, either by the protagonists or antagonists of Mexican immigration. It is hoped that interested citizens and students of the Mexican immigration problems will find in this volume information which will aid them in their studies of the intricate industrial, agricultural, and social questions which are associated with the problem of Mexican immigration into California.

WILL J. FRENCH, Chairman,
Mexican Fact-Finding Committee.

September, 1930.

PART I

IMMIGRATION, POPULATION, AND NATURALIZATION

(Prepared by the Department of Industrial Relations)

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CHAPTER I

MEXICAN IMMIGRATION BEFORE AND SINCE THE QUOTA RESTRICTION LAWS[1]

In this chapter are presented the results of a study of available statistics of Mexican immigration as published by the Commissioner General of Immigration and of related United States census data. These statistics have been analyzed with a view to crystalizing the changes which have taken place in the volume and character of immigration into the United States and into California since the enactments of the 1921 and 1924 per centum limitation laws, known as the quota laws.

THE THREE AND TWO PER CENTUM LAWS

The first per centum limitation law went into effect on June 3, 1921. This law restricted the admission of aliens in any year to three per cent of the number of foreign-born persons of each nationality residing in the United States in 1910, as determined by the federal census of that year. The new immigration law, which went into effect on May 26, 1924, reduced the quota of admissible aliens from three per cent to two per cent. Section 11 (*a*) of the immigration act of 1924 provides that the annual quota of any nationality shall be two per centum of the number of foreign-born individuals of such nationality resident in continental United States as shown by the federal census of 1890, but that the minimum quota for any nationality shall be 100 per year. This change in the basis for computing the quotas was especially significant because it was aimed at reducing the number of admissible immigrants from countries of southern and eastern Europe in preference to immigrants from countries of northern and western Europe.

Under the 1924 immigration law, the total immigration of aliens from quota countries was restricted to 164,667 annually. Of this total, the annual quota for northwestern Europe was 140,909, or 85.6 per cent; for southern and eastern Europe and Asia, 21,847, or 13.3 per cent; for Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and other Pacific islands, 1821, or 1.1 per cent of the total.

But while the 1924 immigration act effectively restricts the number of admissible aliens from European countries, this act exempts from its quota provision immigrants born in the Dominion of Canada, New Foundland, the Republic of Mexico, the Republic of Cuba, the Republic of Haiti, the Dominican Republic, the Canal Zone, or an alien of an independent country of Central or South America. Aliens from these countries are defined by the law as "non-quota" immigrants.

[1] Most of the data contained in this chapter were published in the March, 1929, issue of the Journal of the American Statistical Association, pp. 60–60, in an article on "Facts About Mexican Immigration Before and Since the Quota Restriction Laws," by Louis Bloch, Statistician of the Department of Industrial Relations and an investigator for Governor Young's Mexican Fact-Finding Committee.

ACTUAL AND REPORTED MEXICAN IMMIGRATION

In considering statistics of Mexican immigration, it is especially important to recognize the distinction between *actual* and *reported* immigration. The data published in the reports of the Commissioner General of Immigration show the legally admitted aliens. But in the case of the Mexicans the number of illegal entrants is in all probabilities very considerable. The actual immigration would include the legal and illegal entrants.

The following quotation regarding the unlawful entry of Mexicans into the United States is from a letter written by Hon. James J. Davis, Secretary of Labor, on April 15, 1924, to Hon. Cyrenus Cole, House of Representatives, United States Congress:

> "On May 22, 1917, the United States Secretary of Labor issued an order instructing immigration officials on the Mexican border to disregard the literacy test, the contract-labor section, and the head-tax provision of the immigration law with reference to the coming of Mexican people who were to engage as workmen in agricultural pursuits. This order remained in force until March 2, 1921, or until within two days of the passing out of the Wilson administration. I have never been able to find out how many people came in under that provision. * * * During the fiscal year 1919, there were imported under this rule a total of 9998. * * * None of those coming under this arrangement were counted as immigrants, because they were admitted on the theory of coming temporarily. * * * Most of them violated the condition of their admission. * * *
>
> "Under date of March 19, 1920, Assistant Chief of Staff for Military Intelligence made a report to the Director of Military Intelligence on this subject. He reports, among other things, that since the suspension of the provisions of the immigration law relating to Mexican laborers it was estimated from facts furnished by Mexican and American border officers that in excess of 100,000 Mexicans entered the United States between February 1, 1920, and the date of his report * * * and but a small part of this number had passed through the immigration stations. * * *
>
> "* * * I believe that at least as many more entered from Mexico during the past fiscal year [1922–1923] through irregular channels as were recorded by the officers of the government at our immigration station. * * * Assistant Secretary Henning reports that it is generally estimated that there are not less than twice as many surreptitious entries as legal ones and that our inspector in charge at Laredo places the number at five times the legal admissions." [2]

Further testimony regarding the extent of illegal entries of Mexicans into the United States is revealed by a comparison of the United States census data on the number of Mexicans in this country at decennial census periods with available data on total and net Mexican immigration. Thus, in 1900 the census reported the total number of Mexicans residing in the United States as 103,393. The total number of alien Mexican immigrants who came into this country legally between 1901–1910 was 41,490. The highest possible number of Mexicans in the United States at the 1910 census should not have been in excess of 103,393 plus 41,490, or 144,883.[3] But instead, the 1910 census enumerated 221,915 Mexicans in the United States. This number is 77,032 more than the most that could be expected in view of the legal number of Mexican entrants into this country between 1901–1910. Assuming

[2] See Congressional Record, Senate Vol. 66, pt. 2, Jan. 1925, pp. 1366–67.

[3] The total number of Mexicans in the U. S. enumerated in 1900 was added to the total number of immigrants into the U. S. during 1901–1910. This does not take into consideration the emigrant alien Mexicans, or the number of persons born in Mexico who died between 1901–1910. Statistics of emigration are not available until 1908. If these factors could be taken into account, the number of Mexicans at the 1910 census should be considerably lower than 144,883.

that the enumeration in the census years considered was equally accurate, and allowing for mortality and emigration, it may be roughly estimated that approximately 100,000 Mexicans entered this country illegally between 1901–1910.

Likewise, in 1910 the census counted 221,915 Mexicans in the United States. The net increase in the foreign-born Mexican population through excess of immigration over emigration between 1911–1920, was 152,541. The maximum number of Mexicans that could be expected, even were there no deaths, at the 1920 census should be 374,456. But instead the 1920 census reported 486,418 Mexicans in the United States, or at least 111,962 more than could be expected if only the legal entrants were considered. On the basis of these figures, it appears fair and conservative to estimate that during the twenty years 1901–1920, about 200,000 Mexicans entered this country illegally.

The difficulties of enforcing the federal immigration laws along the Mexican border are recurrently described in the annual reports of the Commissioner General of Immigration.

In the absence of reliable information as to the volume of smuggling of Mexican immigrants before and since the per centum limitation laws of 1921 and 1924, only the reported legal entries of Mexicans are analyzed in this chapter.

MEXICAN IMMIGRATION BEFORE THE 1921 QUOTA LAW

Since the three per cent quota law did not go into effect until June 3, 1921, and the two per cent quota law did not go into effect until May 26, 1924, the effect of these laws upon immigration from Mexico may be measured by a comparison of statistics of Mexican immigration before July 1, 1921, from July 1, 1921, to July 1, 1924, and since July 1, 1924. In the following table are presented data showing the number and proportion the Mexican immigrants were of the total immigration prior to July 1, 1921.

TABLE 1. NUMBER AND PER CENT MEXICAN IMMIGRATION WAS OF TOTAL IMMIGRATION INTO THE UNITED STATES FROM 1881 TO 1921, BY DECADES*

Decades	Total number of immigrants	Number from Mexico	Per cent from Mexico
1881-1890	5,246,613	1,913	(a)
1891-1900	3,687,564	971	(a)
1901-1910	8,795,386	49,642	.6
1911-1921**	6,541,039	249,762	3.8

*Report of Commissioner General of Immigration, 1927, pp. 190-191.
**Eleven years.
(a) Less than one tenth of one per cent.

The foregoing table shows that the immigration from Mexico prior to 1911 was relatively unimportant. During the ten years 1901–1910, only six-tenths of one per cent of the total immigration into the United States was from Mexico. But during the eleven fiscal years 1911–1921, the number of Mexican immigrants was 249,762, or 3.8 per cent of the total number of 6,541,039 immigrants admitted into the United States.

The rush of immigrants from Mexico began during the World War, and was undoubtedly caused by the then prevailing shortage of labor.

MEXICAN IMMIGRATION FROM JULY 1, 1921, TO JULY 1, 1924

Although, as has been pointed out in the preceding section, the Mexican immigration began during the World War period, the great influx of immigration from Mexico was caused by the passage of the quota laws. In the following table are presented the figures of immigration during the three fiscal years 1921–1922, 1922–1923, and 1923–1924, that is, for the period during which the three per cent quota law was in operation.

TABLE 2. NUMBER AND PER CENT MEXICAN ALIEN IMMIGRATION INTO THE UNITED STATES WAS OF THE TOTAL ALIEN IMMIGRATION INTO THE UNITED STATES DURING THE THREE FISCAL YEARS, 1921-22, 1922-23 AND 1923-24

Fiscal years ended June 30—	Total number of immigrants admitted into United States	Total number of Mexican immigrants admitted into United States	Per cent Mexican immigrants of total immigrants
1922	309,556	18,246	5.9
1923	522,919	62,709	12.0
1924	706,896	87,648	12.4
Total	1,539,371	168,603	10.9

Thus, while during the eleven years preceding the enactment of the three per cent quota law, the number of Mexican immigrants admitted was only 3.8 per cent of the total immigration, this percentage increased, under the new law, to 10.9 during the three fiscal years ended June 30, 1924. The shutting off of immigration from European countries has given an added impetus to immigration from Mexico.

MEXICAN IMMIGRATION FROM JULY 1, 1924, TO JULY 1, 1928 *

In the next table are presented data showing the increase in Mexican immigration in relation to total immigration into the United States for four fiscal years since the two per centum quota restriction law took effect.

TABLE 3. NUMBER AND PER CENT MEXICAN ALIEN IMMIGRATION WAS OF THE TOTAL ALIEN IMMIGRATION INTO THE UNITED STATES DURING THE FOUR FISCAL YEARS, 1924-25, 1925-26, 1926-27 AND 1927-28

Fiscal years ended June 30—	Total number of immigrants admitted into the United States	Number of Mexican immigrants admitted	Per cent Mexicans of total
1925	294,314	32,378	11.0
1926	304,488	42,638	14.0
1927	335,175	66,766	19.9
1928	307,225	57,765	18.8
Total	1,241,232	199,547	16.1

* Since the writing of this chapter, there has been a substantial decrease in Mexican immigration into the United States. The reports of the Commissioner General of Immigration show that during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1929, 38,980 immigrant alien Mexicans were admitted into the United States, and that during the fiscal year ended June 30, 1930, the number of such aliens admitted was only 11,915. This decrease in Mexican immigration is attributed to the stricter visa regulations imposed by the State Department in an attempt to restrict Mexican immigration without including Mexico within the quota restriction laws.

An examination of Table 3 shows that the proportion of Mexican immigration in the total immigration increased from 11.0 per cent in 1925 to 18.8 per cent in 1928. During the four fiscal years ended July 1, 1928, the Mexican immigration was 16.1 per cent of the total immigration.

Table 4 shows the annual numerical and percentage increases or decreases in Mexican immigration from the fiscal year 1921–22 to the fiscal year 1927–28, inclusive. This table shows both the effect of the quota limitations on Europeans, which did not apply to Mexicans, and that of the provision for visa and fee included in the two per cent law which did. The greatest increase in the number of Mexicans admitted under the three per cent quota law was in 1924. During this year the increase over the preceding year was 39.8 per cent. During the next year, which was the first year of the operation of the two per cent law, the number of Mexicans legally admitted dropped 55,270, or 63.1 per cent compared with the preceding year.† This sudden decrease is undoubtedly due to the fact that 1925 was the first year following the adoption of the visa requirements and the visa fee of $10. Since 1925 the number of alien Mexicans admitted into the United States increased again in 1926 and in 1927. In the latter year the number admitted was 66,766, or 56.6 per cent greater than in the preceding year.

During the latest fiscal year ended June 30, 1928, the total number of alien immigrant Mexicans admitted was 57,765, which was 9001, or 13.5 per cent less than during the preceding year. Alien immigration into the United States, other than Mexican, declined from 268,409 in 1927 to 249,460 in 1928, a decrease of 18,949, or 7.1 per cent.

TABLE 4. NUMBER AND PER CENT OF INCREASE OR DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF ALIEN MEXICAN IMMIGRANTS ADMITTED INTO THE UNITED STATES FROM 1922 TO 1928, BY FISCAL YEARS

Fiscal years ended June 30—	Number of immigrant Mexican aliens admitted into the United States	Increase or (—) decrease over preceding year	
		Number	Per cent
1922	18,246		
1923	62,709	44,463	243.7
1924	87,648	24,939	39.8
1925	32,378	—55,270	—63.1
1926	42,638	10,260	31.7
1927	66,766	24,128	56.6
1928	57,765	—9,001	—13.5

The percentages which the Mexicans were of the total alien immigrants admitted into the United States before and since the quota restriction laws are shown graphically in Chart 1, following.

SUBSTITUTION OF MEXICANS

That the quota restriction laws have resulted in the substitution of the Mexican immigrant for the immigrant from southern and eastern Europe is shown in Table 5, next presented.

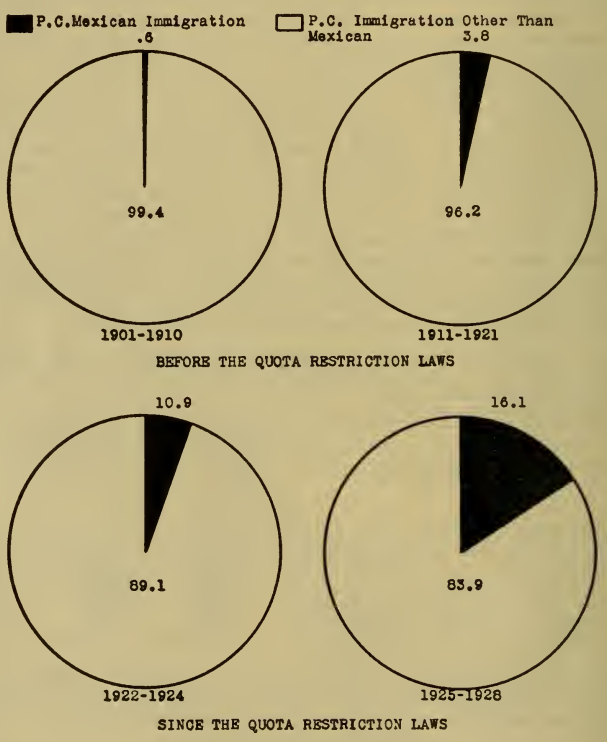
During the ten years 1911–1920, the Mexican immigrants were only 3.6 per cent of the total number of aliens admitted. The southern

† But see earlier discussion of probable illegal entries.

Italians, Hebrews, Polish, English, Germans, Scandinavians, Irish, and Greeks in the order named, were the races which contributed the largest numbers of immigrants, in excess of the number contributed by Mexico. During the seven years 1921–1927, the Republic of

CHART 1

RATIOS OF MEXICAN IMMIGRATION TO TOTAL IMMIGRATION INTO THE UNITED STATES BEFORE AND SINCE THE QUOTA RESTRICTION LAWS.



Mexico contributed 10.4 per cent of our total immigration. The number of immigrants from this country were exceeded only by immigrants from Germany, England, and southern Italy, in order named. Again during the three years 1925–1927, during which the two per cent quota law has been in operation, Mexican immigrants were 15.2 per cent of

the total of immigrants admitted. This proportion was exceeded only by the German immigrants, who were 18.1 per cent of the total alien immigrants admitted during these three years.

While during 1925–1927 Mexicans contributed 15.2 per cent of the total immigration and the southern Italians contributed 3.1 per cent, the situation was practically the reverse in 1911–1920 before the enactment of the quota laws. During this ten-year period the Mexicans contributed 3.6 per cent of the total immigration while the southern Italians contributed 17.2 per cent of the total immigration.

TABLE 5. PER CENT EACH RACE OR PEOPLE WAS OF TOTAL NUMBER OF IMMIGRANT ALIENS ADMITTED INTO THE UNITED STATES DURING THE TEN FISCAL YEARS, 1911-20, COMPARED WITH THE SEVEN FISCAL YEARS, 1921-27, AND WITH THE THREE FISCAL YEARS, 1925-27*

Race or people	Per cent of total immigrant aliens admitted into the United States during—			Rank according to highest per cent admitted during—		
	10 years 1911–1920	7 years 1921–1927	3 years 1925–1927	1911–1920	1921–1927	1925–1927
Italian, South	17.2	10.6	3.1	1	3	9
Hebrew	8.6	9.3	3.4	2	5	8
Polish	8.3	2.2	1.1	3	9	10
English	7.3	11.4	14.4	4	2	3
German	6.0	11.8	18.1	5	1	1
Scandinavian, (Norwegians, Danes and Swedes)	4.3	5.5	6.3	6	8	7
Irish	4.2	7.9	13.9	7	6	4
Greek	4.1	1.5	.5	8	12	15
Mexican	**3.6**	**10.4**	**15.2**	**9**	**4**	**2**
French	3.1	5.6	6.9	10	8	6
Italian, North	3.1	1.8	.6	10	10	14
Scotch	2.9	6.7	8.6	11	7	5
Russian	2.7	.7	.4	12	18	16
Croatian and Slovenian	2.2	.8	.2	13	17	18
Magyar	2.2	1.0	.3	13	15	17
Ruthenian (Russniak)	2.0	.2	.2	14	23	18
Slovak	1.9	1.7	.2	15	11	18
Spanish	1.8	1.2	.3	16	13	17
Dutch and Flemish	1.5	1.2	1.0	17	13	11
Portuguese	1.5	.9	.3	17	16	17
Japanese	1.4	.9	.2	18	16	18
Lithuanian	1.4	.2	.1	18	23	19
African, black	1.1	1.1	.3	19	14	17
Finnish	1.1	.5	.2	19	20	18
Rumanian	1.0	.4	.1	20	21	19
Bulgarian, Serbian and Montenegrin	.9	.5	.2	21	20	18
Bohemian and Moravian (Czech)	.7	.7	.7	22	18	13
Syrian	.6	.3	.2	23	22	18
Armenian	.5	.6	.2	24	19	18
Cuban	.5	.3	.5	24	22	15
Spanish American	.4	.5	.9	25	20	12
Chinese	.3	.7	.4	26	18	16
Dalmatian, Bosnian and Herzegovinian	.3	.1	(A)	26	24	----------
Welsh	.3	.3	.4	26	22	16
West Indian (except Cuban)	.2	.2	.1	27	23	19
Turkish	.1	(A)	(A)	28	(A)	(A)
All others	.7	.3	.4	----------	----------	----------
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	----------	----------	----------

*It should not be inferred from the data in this table that we were getting during the three years, 1925-1927, less Mexican immigrants than we were getting, say, South Italians during the ten years 1911-1920. The average annual number of all immigrant aliens admitted into the United States during the ten years, 1911-1920, was 573,581, but the average annual number of all immigrant aliens admitted into the United States during the three years, 1925-1927, was 311,326. The average annual number of South Italians admitted during the ten years, 1911-1920, was 176,194; during the three years, 1925-1927, it was 9,764. But the average annual number of Mexicans admitted into the United States during the ten years, 1911-1920, was 20,694; during the three years, 1925-1927, it was 47,261.

(A) Less than one-tenth of one per cent and included in "all others."

MEXICAN AND OTHER IMMIGRANTS IN CALIFORNIA

Table 6 and Chart 2 show that the quota restriction laws have changed the racial composition of the immigrants who come into California. Thus, during the three fiscal years 1919, 1920, and 1921, 92,319 of the total alien immigrants who were admitted into the United States designated California as their state of "intended future permanent residence." Of this total, 15,602, or 16.9 per cent, were English; 11,224, or 12.2 per cent, were Japanese; and northern and southern Italians were 15.1 per cent of the total. During these three years the Mexicans were 13,670, or 14.8 per cent, of the total 92,319 alien immigrants admitted into the United States who were bound for California.

It will be observed that the ratios which the Mexicans were of the total immigrants bound for California rose from 14.8 in 1919–1921 to 20.7 in 1922–1924 and to 41.3 in 1925–1928. During the same period the ratios which all Italians were of the total immigrants coming into California dropped from 15.1 in 1919–1921 to 7.0 in 1922–1924 and to 2.7 in 1925–1928.

As a result of the two per cent quota restriction law which went into effect on May 26, 1924, California is now receiving the following principal immigrant races:

Races or peoples	*Percentages of total immigrants coming into California 1925–1928*
All races and peoples	100.0
Mexicans	41.3
English	14.9
German	9.1
Scotch	7.1
Irish	6.7
Scandinavians	4.0
Italians (northern and southern)	2.7
Spanish-American	2.6
All others	11.6

TABLE 6. NUMBER AND PER CENT OF ALIEN IMMIGRANTS ADMITTED INTO THE UNITED STATES DURING THE TEN FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1928, WHO DECLARED CALIFORNIA AS THEIR STATE OF INTENDED FUTURE PERMANENT RESIDENCE, BY YEARS AND BY RACES AND PEOPLES.

Race or people	Immigrant aliens bound for California during the—					
	Three years: 1919–1921		Three years: 1922–1924		Four years: 1925–1928	
	Total	Per cent of total	Total	Per cent of total	Total	Per cent of total
Total	92,319	100.0	120,663	100.0	90,118	100.0
African, black	142	.2	169	.1	87	.1
Armenian	831	1.0	737	.6	254	.3
Bohemian, Moravian (Czech)	48	(A)	162	.1	73	.1
Bulgarian, Serbian and Montenegrin	177	.2	204	.2	81	.1
Chinese	3,561	3.9	5,382	4.5	1,510	1.7
Crotian and Slovenian	494	.5	644	.5	145	.2
Cuban	29	(A)	51	(A)	54	.1
Daimatian, Bosnian and Herzegovinian	196	.2	163	.1	28	(A)
Dutch and Flemish	1,802	2.0	1,519	1.3	969	1.1
East Indian	104	.1	163	.1	34	(A)
English	15,602	16.9	24,303	20.2	13,440	14.9
Finnish	258	.3	328	.3	96	.1
French	2,809	3.0	3,042	2.5	2,619	2.9
German	3,099	2.3	8,064	6.7	8,212	9.1
Greek	682	.7	512	.4	228	.3
Hebrew	2,507	2.7	4,525	3.8	1,158	1.3
Irish	3,891	4.2	5,987	5.0	6,074	6.7
Italian, North	5,620	6.1	4,238	3.5	1,069	1.2
Italian, South	8,216	9.0	4,196	3.5	1,376	1.5
Japanese	11,224	12.2	7,967	6.6	573	.6
Korean	12	(A)	31	(A)	16	(A)
Lithuanian	13	(A)	52	(A)	17	(A)
Magyar	37	(A)	253	.2	59	.1
Mexican	**13,670**	**14.8**	**25,012**	**20.7**	**37,196**	**41.3**
Pacific Islander	15	(A)	12	(A)	1	(A)
Polish	179	.2	371	.3	125	.1
Portuguese	4,263	4.6	1,464	1.2	392	.4
Rumanian	34	(A)	86	.1	61	.1
Russian	758	.8	3,028	2.5	856	1.0
Ruthenian (Russniak)	8	(A)	159	.1	19	(A)
Scandinavian (Norwegians, Danes, Swedes)	2,458	2.7	4,473	3.7	3,592	4.0
Scotch	5,017	5.4	10,363	8.6	6,407	7.1
Slovak	257	.3	114	.1	45	(A)
Spanish	2,404	2.6	636	.6	293	.3
Spanish American	2,157	2.3	1,180	1.0	2,315	2.6
Syrian	156	.2	246	.2	91	.1
Turkish	4	(A)	14	(A)	16	(A)
Welsh	339	.4	661	.6	429	.5
West Indian (except Cuban)	88	(A)	52	(A)	23	(A)
Other peoples	158	.2	100	.1	80	.1

(A) Less than one-tenth of one per cent.

CHART 2

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF ALIEN IMMIGRANTS COMING INTO THE UNITED STATES DURING THE FOUR FISCAL YEARS 1925-1928 WHOSE "STATE OF INTENDED FUTURE PERMANENT RESIDENCE" WAS CALIFORNIA.

(Note: This chart shows the effect of the present quota restriction laws upon the racial composition of the immigrants immigrating into California.)

EMIGRATION OF MEXICANS

Whether the immigrant from Mexico returns to his native land after a sojourn in the United States or whether he becomes a permanent resident of this country, is a question of concern to those who depend upon Mexican labor and to others interested in the Mexican immigration problem. But there are no accurate statistics available on the subject of Mexican emigration. The data published by the Commissioner General of Immigration and included in Table 7, following, are considered incomplete, because these figures only record those Mexicans who report to the United States immigration authorities that they are returning to Mexico.

There is no doubt that numbers of Mexicans who go out as "alien emigrants" are not so reported by the official figures of emigration. Just what is the discrepancy between the reported Mexican emigration, as shown in Table 7, and the actual Mexican emigration is not known and can not be definitely established because of the recognized difficulties in securing accurate records of aliens leaving the United States over the land borders.[4]

It was already pointed out in a preceding section of this chapter that the figures of alien Mexican immigration as reported by the Commissioner General of Immigration show only the legally admitted aliens and that these figures do not show the numbers of Mexicans who actually entered into the United States. That the figures of Mexican immigration into, and emigration from the United States are understatements of fact, should be borne in mind when examining the statistics presented in Table 7.

It will be noticed that the number and percentages of Mexican emigrant aliens varies considerably from year to year. Between 1922 and 1927 the ratios of emigration to immigration varied from 2.1 to 31.6. In 1918 emigration exceeded immigration by 42.5 per cent, and in 1919 emigration of Mexicans was 61.6 per cent of the immigration that year. The large emigration of Mexicans during 1818 and 1919 may be accounted for by the general exodus of aliens after the World War. The total number of immigrant aliens admitted into the United States during 1918 and 1919 was 251,750, while the total number of emigrant aliens departed during these two years was 218,107, or 86.6 per cent.

In Table 7 the number and percentages of emigrants are also shown by six-year periods. It will be observed that from 1910–1915 the emigration of Mexicans was 4.2 per cent of the total immigration of Mexicans. During the next six-year period, which included the years of our participation in the World War and the postwar period, the emigration was 34.9 per cent of the immigration. From 1922 to 1927, during which period the quota restriction laws have been in operation the total number of Mexican immigrant aliens admitted was 310,-

[4] Hon. Frank B. Kellogg, Secretary of State, testified before the Senate Committee on Immigration that it was "obviously difficult" to secure a record of aliens departing over the land borders. See Hearings Before the Committee on Immigration, United States Senate, 70th Congress, 1st Session on S. 1236, S. 1437, and S. 3019, held February 1, 27, 28, 29; March 1 and 5, 1928, pp. 159–160.

For a study of the inadequacy and incompleteness of the statistics of immigration and emigration of Mexicans, as published by the Commissioner General of Immigration, see "Mexican Labor in the United States, Migration Statistics," by Paul S. Taylor, University of California Publications in Economics, 1929, Volume 6, No. 3, pp. 237–255.

385; while the number of Mexican emigrant aliens departed was 18,934, or 6.1 per cent of admitted.

The statement frequently made that the Mexican immigrant returns to his native land after working a while in this country is not supported by these figures of immigration and emigration. Even allowing for a considerable degree of inaccuracy in the emigration figures, the data presented in Table 7 nevertheless point to the conclusion that relatively few Mexican immigrants emigrate back to Mexico. This conclusion is also corroborated by the data presented in Table 8, which show large increases in the Mexican population in the United States since 1870.

TABLE 7. NUMBER AND PER CENT ALIEN MEXICAN EMIGRANTS FROM THE UNITED STATES WERE OF ALIEN MEXICAN IMMIGRANTS INTO THE UNITED STATES FROM 1910 TO 1927, BY YEARS AND BY SIX-YEARS PERIODS

Fiscal years ended June 30	Number of alien Mexicans		Per cent departed of admitted
	Immigrants admitted	Emigrants departed	
1910	17,760	210	1.2
1911	18,784	319	1.7
1912	22,001	325	1.5
1913	10,954	910	8.3
1914	13,809	1,670	12.1
1915	10,993	573	5.2
Total, 6 years	94,301	4,007	4.2
1916	17,198	559	3.2
1917	16,438	759	4.6
1918	17,602	25,084	*142.5
1919	28,844	17,793	61.6
1920	51,042	6,412	12.6
1921	29,603	5,519	18.6
Total, 6 years	160,727	56,126	34.9
1922	18,246	5,770	31.6
1923	62,709	2,479	3.9
1924	87,648	1,878	2.1
1925	32,378	2,875	8.9
1926	42,638	3,158	7.4
1927	66,766	2,774	4.1
Total, 6 years	310,385	18,934	6.1

* Excess of emigration over immigration.

NUMBER OF MEXICANS IN THE UNITED STATES

The effect of the quota restriction laws upon Mexican immigration into the United States was shown in the foregoing sections of this chapter. The number and distribution of the Mexicans in the United States will be discussed in the following sections.

The number of persons born in Mexico and residing in the United States at each census year from 1870 to 1920, and the number and per cent of increase from decade to decade are shown in Table 8 and Chart 3. It will be seen that in 1870 the number of persons born in Mexico enumerated by the United States census of that year was 42,435. This number increased each decade until in 1920 it was 486,418. The total increase in the number of Mexicans in the United States between 1900 and 1910 was greater than the total number of Mexicans who resided in this country in 1900. Likewise, the total increase in the number of Mexicans in the United States between 1910 and 1920 was

greater than the total number of Mexicans who resided in this country in 1910.

TABLE 8. NUMBER AND PER CENT OF INCREASE IN THE FOREIGN POPULATION OF THE UNITED STATES BORN IN MEXICO, FROM 1870-1920, BY DECADES*

(Computed from U. S. census data)

Decades	Total number	Increase over preceding decade	
		Number	Per cent
1870	42,435		
1880	68,399	25,964	61.2
1890	77,853	9,454	13.8
1900	103,393	25,540	32.8
1910	221,915	118,522	114.6
1920	486,418	264,503	119.2

* Department of Commerce: Statistical Abstract of the U. S., 1926, p. 32.

From July 1, 1920, to June 30, 1927, seven fiscal years, the total number of immigrant alien Mexicans legally admitted into the United States was 339,988. The number of reported emigrants during the same seven years was 24,453; so that the net increase in the number of legally admitted immigrant aliens was 315,535. This number added to 486,418, the number reported by the census in 1920, gives a total of 801,953 Mexican residents in the United States in 1927. But since the total of 801,953 does not take into account the illegal entrants, or the nonimmigrants [4a] who decided not to return to their native land and remained in the United States, the actual number of Mexicans now in the United States is undoubtedly in excess of one million. In his 1926 annual report, the Commissioner General of Immigration said: "In view of the very considerable number of Mexican aliens presumed to be illegally in this country, it is safe to say that over a million Mexicans are in the United States at the present time, and under the present laws this number may be added to practically without limit." [5]

INCREASE OF MEXICANS IN CALIFORNIA

Table 9 shows the distribution of Mexicans in the United States at the census years of 1900, 1910 and 1920.[6]

It will be observed that the preponderant majority of Mexicans were in the states of Texas, California, and Arizona in each census year. In 1900, 93,320, or 90.3 per cent of the total number of Mexicans in the United States were living in these three states. In 1910, this propor-

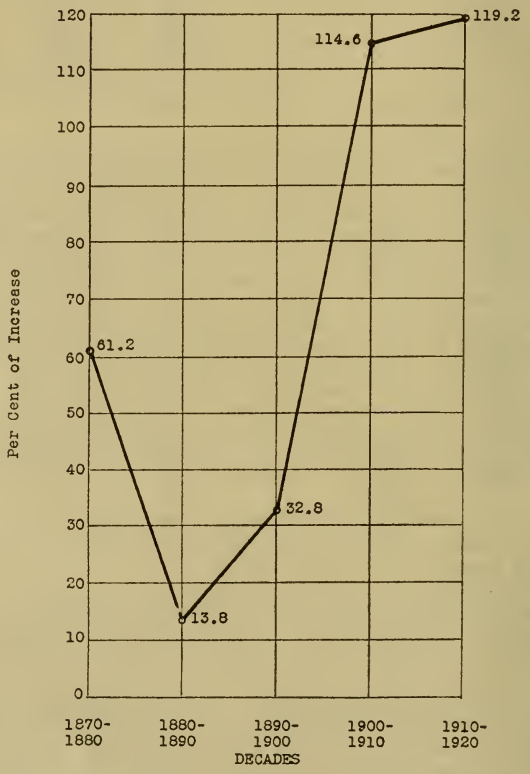
[4a] As defined in subdivision (2) of section 3 of the Immigration Act of 1924, the term nonimmigrant includes the following: (1) a governmental official, his family, attendants, servants, and employees, (2) an alien visiting the United States temporarily as a tourist or temporarily for business or pleasure, (3) an alien in continuous transit through the United States, (4) an alien lawfully admitted to the United States who later goes in transit from one part of the United States to another through foreign contiguous territory, (5) a bona fide alien seaman serving as such on a vessel arriving at a port of the United States and seeking to enter temporarily the United States solely in the pursuit of his calling as a seaman, and (6) an alien entitled to enter the United States solely to carry on trade under and in pursuance of the provisions of a present existing treaty of commerce and navigation.

[5] Annual Report of the Commissioner General of Immigration, 1926, p. 10.

[6] The figures in Table 9 refer to foreign-population in the United States born in Mexico. They do not distinguish persons born in Mexico who do not belong to the Mexican race. Neither do these figures distinguish between naturalized Mexicans, alien Mexicans, immigrant or nonimmigrant Mexicans. These distinctions are not important for the purposes of this analysis.

CHART 3

PER CENT OF INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF FOREIGN-BORN MEXICANS IN THE UNITED STATES: 1870-1920, BY DECADES.



tion decreased to 85.0, and in 1920 to 82.7. But, while the *percentage* of the total Mexicans residing in these three states declined slightly from 1910 to 1920, the number of Mexicans living in Texas, California, and Arizona in 1910 was 188,697, and in 1920 it was 402,178, an increase of 213,481, or 113.1 per cent.

It will be noticed further in this table that while in 1900 the proportion of Mexicans residing in Texas was 68.7, in 1910 this percentage declined to 56.3, and in 1920 it further declined to 51.8. The proportion of the total Mexicans in the United States residing in Arizona remained practically the same from 1900 to 1920. But the number and proportion of Mexicans living in California has continuously increased. In 1900 of the total number of Mexicans in the United States, 8086, or 7.8 per cent, resided in California. This number increased to 33,694, or 15.2 per cent, in 1910, and rose to 88,771, or 18.2 per cent, of the total enumerated in 1920. From these data, therefore, it appears that California has been getting a disproportionate share of the total Mexican immigration into the United States.

TABLE 9. NUMBER AND PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF FOREIGN POPULATION IN THE UNITED STATES BORN IN MEXICO, BY PRINCIPAL STATES OF RESIDENCE AND BY DECADES; 1900-1920*

(Computed from U. S. census data)

State of residence	1900		1910		1920	
	Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total
Total	103,393	100.0	221,915	100.0	486,418	100.0
Texas	71,062	68.7	125,016	56.3	251,827	51.8
California	8,086	7.8	33,694	15.2	88,771	18.2
Arizona	14,172	13.7	29,987	13.5	61,580	12.7
New Mexico	6,649	6.4	11,918	5.4	20,272	4.2
Kansas	71	.1	8,429	3.8	13,770	2.8
Colorado	274	.3	2,602	1.2	11,037	2.3
Oklahoma	134	.1	2,744	1.2	6,884	1.4
Illinois	156	.2	672	.3	4,032	.8
Missouri	192	.2	1,413	.6	3,411	.7
New York	353	.3	555	.2	2,999	.6
Iowa	29	(A)	620	.3	2,650	.5
Nebraska	27	(A)	290	.1	2,611	.5
All other states	2,218	2.2	3,975	1.9	16,574	3.5
Total number in Texas, California and Arizona	93,320	----------	188,697	----------	402,178	----------
Per cent in Texas, California, and Arizona of total in U. S.	----------	90.3	----------	85.0	----------	82.7

* U. S. Census, 1920, Vol. 2, p. 727.
(A) Less than one tenth of one per cent.

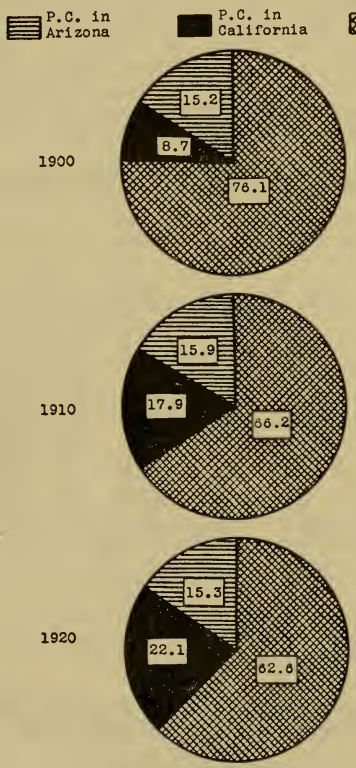
In the following tabulation and in Chart 4 only the foreign-born Mexicans residing in Arizona, California, and Texas in 1900, 1910, and 1920 are considered.

In 1900 the total number of Mexicans residing in these three states was 93,320, or 90.3 per cent of the total in the United States. Of this total 76.1 per cent resided in Texas; 15.2 per cent in Arizona; and only 8.7 per cent in California.

But in 1920 the proportions of the total foreign-born Mexicans residing in these three states changed. While in 1900 Texas had 76.1 per cent of the total, in 1920 the proportion in Texas declined to 62.6.

CHART 4

PERCENTAGES DISTRIBUTION OF FOREIGN-BORN MEXICANS RESIDING IN THE THREE STATES OF ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA, AND TEXAS IN 1900, 1910, AND 1920.



Arizona, in 1900, had 15.2 per cent of the total in these three states, and in 1920 the Arizona proportion was nearly the same, namely, 15.3. But in 1900 California had only 8.7 per cent of the total Mexican residents in these three states, but this percentage increased to 17.9 in 1910, and to 22.1 in 1920

Three states	Foreign-born Mexican residents in—					
	1900		1910		1920	
	Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total
Arizona	14,172	15.2	29,987	15.9	61,580	15.3
California	8,086	8.7	33,694	17.9	88,771	22.1
Texas	71,062	76.1	125,016	66.2	251,827	62.6
Total	93,320	100.0	188,697	100.0	402,178	100.0

That the Mexican immigrant is drawn toward California in increasing numbers is also shown in the Table 10. A perusal of this table shows that the proportion of Mexican immigrants who declared California as their state of "intended future permanent residence" has been steadily increasing. In the three years from 1909–1911, this per cent was 3.8, but in the three years from 1924–1926 this ratio increased to 17.0. During the same period, the proportion of Mexican immigrants who declared Texas as their state of intended future permanent residence decreased from 83.6 in 1909–1911 to 64.3 in 1924–1926. Of the total number of immigrant alien Mexicans entering the United States during 1909–1911, 8.1 per cent declared Arizona to be their state of intended future permanent residence. This proportion increased to 19.2 in 1915–1918 and declined to 10.7 in 1924–2926.

The index numbers presented in Table 10 and Chart 5 demonstrate in another way that California has become the Mecca for an ever-growing number of Mexicans. Taking the three years 1909–1911 as the base period, it will be noticed that the number of immigrant alien Mexicans who declared California their state of intended future permanent residence increased 1305 per cent by 1924–1926, compared with 312 per cent for Arizona, 140 per cent for Texas, and 449 per cent for all other states.

Data available for two fiscal years, since the three-year period, 1924–1926, corroborate this preference of Mexican immigrants for the State of California. Thus, of the 124,531 alien Mexican immigrants who were admitted into the United States during the two fiscal years ended June 30, 1928, 9641, or 7.7 per cent, went to Arizona; 24,512, or 19.7 per cent, to California; and 77,629, or 62.3 per cent, to Texas.

CHART 5

PERCENTAGES OF INCREASE OR DECREASE IN THE NUMBERS OF MEXICAN IMMIGRANT ALIENS WHO DECLARED ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA, AND TEXAS, RESPECTIVELY, AS THEIR STATES OF "INTENDED FUTURE PERMANENT RESIDENCE," FROM 1909-1911 TO 1924-1926, BY THREE-YEARS PERIODS, EACH SUCCESSIVE PERIOD COMPARED WITH THAT OF 1909-1911.

(Index Numbers: 1909-1911 = 100.)

(Note: Fiscal years 1908-1909, 1909-1910, and 1910-1911, etc.)

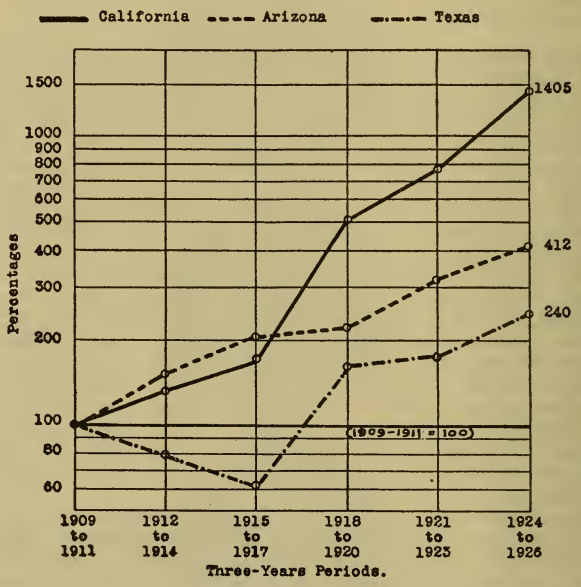


TABLE 10. IMMIGRANT ALIEN MEXICANS ADMITTED INTO THE UNITED STATES DURING THE FISCAL YEARS 1909 TO 1927, BY STATES OF INTENDED FUTURE PERMANENT RESIDENCE, BY THREE-YEAR PERIODS

Three-year periods	Total United States		Arizona		California		Texas		Other states	
	Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total
Total	513,518	100.0	59,337	11.6	60,801	11.8	354,343	69.0	39,037	7.6
1909-11	52,135	100.0	4,233	8.1	1,973	3.8	43,585	83.6	2,344	4.5
1912-14	46,044	100.0	6,420	13.9	2,579	5.6	34,423	74.8	2,622	5.7
1915-17	44,629	100.0	8,573	19.2	3,217	7.2	27,114	60.8	5,725	12.8
1918-20	97,488	100.0	9,021	9.2	10,100	10.4	69,823	71.6	8,544	8.8
1921-23	110,558	100.0	13,647	12.3	15,210	13.8	74,756	67.6	6,945	6.3
1924-26	162,664	100.0	17,443	10.7	27,722	17.0	104,642	64.3	12,857	8.0
Index numbers—number admitted in 1909-1911=100										
1909-11	100		100		100		100		100	
1912-14	88		152		131		79		112	
1915-16	86		203		163		62		244	
1918-20	187		213		512		160		365	
1921-23	212		322		771		172		296	
1924-26	312		412		1405		240		549	

Table 11, next following, also shows that the increase of Mexicans in California from 1900 to 1910 was greater in each decade than the corresponding increases in either Texas or Arizona. Thus, between 1900–1910 the percentage of increase in the Mexican population of California was 316.7, while between 1910–1920 this percentage of increase was 163.5. In Texas the increase in the Mexican population was 75.9 per cent between 1900–1910 and 101.4 per cent between 1910–1920. In Arizona this increase was 111.6 per cent between 1900–1910 and 105.3 per cent between 1910–1920.

TABLE 11. NUMBER AND PER CENT OF INCREASE IN THE FOREIGN POPULATION BORN IN MEXICO RESIDING IN THE STATES OF TEXAS, CALIFORNIA AND ARIZONA; 1900 TO 1920

State of residence	Number in 1900	Number in 1910	Number in 1920	Increase			
				1900-1910		1910-1920	
				Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Texas	71,062	125,016	251,827	53,954	75.9	126,811	101.4
California	8,086	33,694	88,771	25,608	316.7	55,077	163.5
Arizona	14,172	29,987	61,580	15,815	111.6	31,593	105.3
Total	93,320	188,697	402,178	95,377	102.2	213,481	113.1

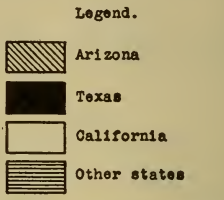
FROM TEXAS INTO CALIFORNIA

The preceding tables 9, 10 and 11 show that California has been getting an increasing number of the Mexican immigration as compared with the states of Arizona and Texas. But Table 10 showed that during the three fiscal years ended June 30, 1927, the percentages of Mexicans designating Arizona, California and Texas as the states of their intended future permanent residence were, respectively, 10.7, 17.0,

CHART 6

PERCENTAGES OF IMMIGRANT ALIEN MEXICANS ADMITTED INTO THE UNITED STATES WHO DECLARED ARIZONA, CALIFORNIA, AND TEXAS, RESPECTIVELY, AS THEIR STATES OF "INTENDED FUTURE PERMANENT RESIDENCE" DURING TEN YEARS, 1911-1920, COMPARED WITH THE PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF FOREIGN-BORN MEXICANS IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1920.

(Note: If the Mexican immigrant would remain where he "intends" to remain upon his arrival into the United States, the lower bar would look about the same as the upper bar.)



"Intended Future Permanent Residence" of Mexicans Admitted Into the United States in Ten Years, 1911-1920.

Distribution of Foreign-Born Mexicans in the United States in 1920.

and 64.3. It is interesting and pertinent to inquire whether the Mexican immigrants actually remain in the states of their intended permanent residence.[7]

It would appear from the data in the following tabulation and in Chart 6, that Mexican immigrants find their way from the State of Texas into the State of California.

States of residence	Number in 1910, United States census	"Intended future permanent residence" of Mexicans in 10 years 1911–1920	Possible maximum total in 1920	Actual number in 1920, United States census	Difference between possible number in 1920	
					Number (d–c)	Per cent $\left(\frac{e}{c}\right)$
Column	(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Arizona	29,987	25,761	55,748	61,580	+5,832	+10.5
California	33,694	16,864	50,558	88,771	+38,213	+75.6
Texas	125,016	146,578	271,594	251,827	—19,767	—7.3
Total	188,697	189,203	377,900	402,178	+24,278	+6.4

Thus, according to United States census data the number of persons born in Mexico and residing in California in 1910 was 33,694. Between 1911–1920, ten years, 16,864 immigrant alien Mexicans declared that the State of California was their state of intended future permanent residence. Assuming that they all entered the United States through California and that they all remained in California, then the possible maximum number of Mexicans in California in 1920 could not have been in excess of 50,558. But instead of this number the United States census of 1920 counted 88,771 Mexicans in California, which is 38,213, or 75.6 per cent, greater than the possible maximum total that could be expected in California in 1920, when the census was taken.[8]

The foregoing tabulation also shows an excess or 5832 for the State of Arizona and a shortage of 19,767 for the State of Texas. While these data are by no means exact, they nevertheless strongly suggest that the Mexicans filter from Texas into California and that in the process of filtration many settle in New Mexico and in Arizona.[9]

[7] The reports of the Commissioner General of Immigration classify immigrants according to state of "intended future permanent residence" and "ports of entry." In the case of the Mexican the port of entry is practically synonymous with the state of intended future permanent residence, that is, the Mexican immigrant generally declares as his state of intended permanent residence the state into which he enters the United States.

[8] Column (c) in the preceding tabulation entitled "Possible maximum total in 1920," could more properly be labeled as the "Impossible maximum total in 1920" for the reason that the figures in this column do not make allowances for the emigrating Mexicans from the respective states or for the deaths of Mexicans during the ten years 1911–1920. The difference between the possible maximum total and the actual number in 1920 is much greater than 38,213 for the State of California. The same observations apply to Arizona. It is assumed in this tabulation that the census enumeration of Mexicans in 1910 and 1920 were equally accurate.

[9] Table 8 shows that in 1910 the number of Mexicans in New Mexico was 11,918, while in 1920 it was 20,272, an increase of 8354, or 70.1 per cent.

SUMMARY

The facts and figures presented and analyzed in this chapter may be summarized as follows:

1. The two per cent quota restriction law of 1924 gave preference to immigrants from countries of northern and western Europe as against immigrants from countries of southern and eastern Europe.

2. While the two per cent law definitely limits the number of admissible immigrant aliens from European countries, it practically places no limitation upon the admission of immigrants from countries in the western hemisphere, including the Republic of Mexico.

3. In the case of Mexican immigration there is a sharp distinction between the number of *reported* immigrants and the *actual* number admitted. The former come in legally. The latter come in illegally. The reports of the Commissioner General of Immigration show the number who come in legally. The actual number of immigrants would include also those who come in illegally.

4. Between 1900 and 1920, conservatively estimated, about 200,000 Mexicans entered this country illegally.

5. The rush of immigration from Mexico began during the World War period and was undoubtedly caused by the then prevailing shortage of labor (Table 1).

6. During the three fiscal years during which the three per cent quota law operated, reported immigration from Mexico into the United States increased from 18,246 in 1922 to 87,648 in 1924, from 5.9 per cent of the total immigration in 1922 to 12.4 per cent of the total immigration in 1924 (Table 2).

7. During the three fiscal years during which the two per cent quota law has been in operation, Mexican immigration increased from 32,378 in 1925 to 57,765 in 1928, or from 11.0 per cent of the total immigration in 1925 to 18.8 per cent of the total immigration in 1928 (Table 3).

8. The big decrease in Mexican immigration in 1925 is accounted for by the fact that 1925 was the first year following the adoption of the visa requirements and the visa fee of $10.

9. The Mexican immigrant is taking place of the immigrant from southern and eastern Europe and is coming into the United States in larger numbers than any other immigrant European race (Table 5).

10. Under the present quota restriction law, over two-fifths of all alien immigrants who declare California as their state of "intended future permanent residence" are Mexicans. In other words, under the present immigration laws, the Mexican is the principal immigrant race coming to California (Table 6).

11. The official data on Mexican emigration are incomplete. They do not show the actual numbers of emigrating Mexicans. Since the same is true of the figures relating to immigrant Mexicans, it appears from the data in Table 7 that Mexicans come into the United States to stay rather than to return to their native land after a sojourn in this country. This fact is also corroborated by a comparison between the numbers of Mexicans in the United States at each decennial period since 1870 with the known numbers of Mexican immigrants and emigrants.

12. There are undoubtedly over 1,000,000 Mexicans in the United States at the present time. Under the present immigration laws this number may be added to without limit.

13. Over four-fifths of the total number of Mexicans residing in the United States in 1920 lived in the three states of Texas, California, and Arizona (Table 9).

14. The proportion of Mexicans living in California increased from 7.8 per cent of the total in the United States in 1900, to 15.2 per cent in 1910, and to 18.2 per cent in 1920 (Table 9).

15. Considering only the total Mexicans residing in the three states of Arizona, California, and Texas, it is a fact that the proportion of this total residing in California rose from 8.7 in 1900 to 17.9 in 1910, and to 22.1 in 1920. During the same period, the proportion of this total residing in Texas declined from 76.1 in 1900 to 66.2 in 1910, and to 62.6 in 1920. The proportion of this total residing in Arizona remained about the same from 1900–1920.

16. While of the total immigrant alien Mexicans admitted during the three years 1909–1912, 3.8 per cent designated California as their state of intended future permanent residence, during the three years 1924–1927, 17.0 per cent designated California as their state of intended future permanent residence (Table 10).

17. The proportion of immigrant alien Mexicans who declared California as their state of intended future permanent residence increased 1305 per cent from 1909–1912 to 1924–1927 (Table 10).

18. Between the decades 1900 to 1910 and 1910 to 1920, California had a very much greater increase in Mexican population than either of the states of Texas or Arizona (Table 11).

19. A comparison between census data and statistics of immigration strongly suggests that the Mexican immigrants filter into California from Texas, and that in the process of filtration many settle in New Mexico and in Arizona.

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CHAPTER II

THE FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION OF CALIFORNIA

In the analysis of the effects of the quota restriction laws, presented in the preceding chapter, it was pointed out that California has become the Mecca for increasing numbers of Mexicans and that of the alien immigrants now coming to California over two-fifths are Mexicans.[1] The relation of the Mexican population to the total population and to the total foreign-born population of California, and the number and distribution of Mexicans in California, are important aspects of the Mexican immigration question which are discussed in the present chapter.

RACIAL COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION OF MEXICO

In dealing with the Mexican immigration problem in its relation to the population of California, it seems desirable to inquire as to the racial composition of the Mexican people. The third census of the Republic of Mexico, taken in 1910, established a population of 15,160,369. This figure is cited by Robert E. Foerster, professor of economics in Princeton University, in his report to the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization of the House of Representatives.[2] Professor Foerster said the following regarding the racial composition of the population of Mexico:

> "From the survey which has been given of the population of Mexico it must be plain that the pure Spanish element is small, that the century which brought many millions of white immigrants to the United States brought very few immigrants even of Spanish origin to Mexico, and that the basic race of the country is Indian, either pure-blooded or mixed with white stock. Common estimates of the pure Indian stock place *it at five or six millins; of the white stock at one and one-half to less than three millions* (for the higher figure there is very little warrant); of the mestizo stock about *seven or eight millions*. If the smaller estimate for the Indian stock is preferred, the larger must be taken for the mestizo. *Of the mestizo stock a part is half Indian and half white*, another part is more than half white and less than half Indian, and still another part is more than half Indian and less than half white. Since the pure Indian stock greatly outnumbers the pure white it is safe to infer that that part of the mestizo which is more than half Indian greatly exceeds that part which is more than half white."[3]

In his study on "Mexican Labor in the United States, Migration Statistics,"[4] Dr. Paul S. Taylor gives the following figures showing the racial composition of the native-born population of Mexico in 1921:

[1] Of the 49,937 alien immigrants admitted into the United States during the two fiscal years ended June 30, 1928, who declared California as their state of intended future permanent residence, 24,512, or 49.6 per cent were Mexicans.

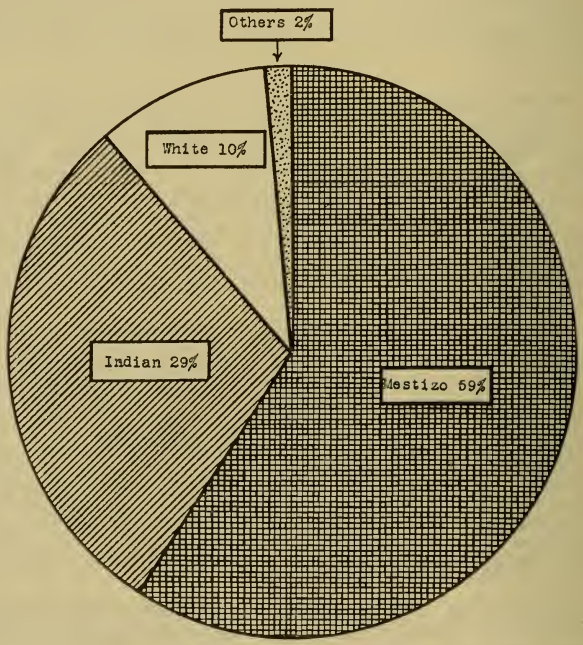
[2] Hearings before the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, House of Representatives, Sixty-Eighth Congress, Second Session, March 3, 1925, p. 307.

[3] *Ibid.*, p. 309. Italics are ours.

[4] Paul S. Taylor: Mexican Labor in the United States, Migration Statistics, University of California Publications in Economics, Volume 6, No. 3, Berkeley, California, 1929, p. 239.

CHART 7

RACIAL COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION OF MEXICO IN 1921.



Race*	Numbers	Per cent
Whites	1,404,718	9.8
Mestizo	8,504,561	59.3
Indian	4,179,449	29.2
Others (or unknown)	144,094	1.0
Foreign born, without racial distinction	101,958	.7
Total	14,334,780	100.0

*Resumen del censo general de habitantes de 30 de noviembre de 1921, Departamento de la Estadistica Nacional (Mexico, 1928), page 62.

It will be seen that of the total population of 14,334,780, only 1,404,718, or 9.8 per cent, were classified as whites; Mestizos were 59.3 per cent of the total; and Indians were 29.2 per cent of the total. These data are shown graphically in Chart 7, following.

The United States Immigration Commission of 1910 described the Mexican population as "mainly of Indian or mixed origin" and that "less than 20 per cent of the people of Mexico are of pure white blood."[5] According to Professor Foerster the Mexican stock "is likely to become even more characteristically one of mixed blood than it has been."[6]

Dr. George P. Clements, director of the agricultural department of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, estimates that about 13,000,000 of the 15,000,000 Mexicans in Mexico are "made up of hundreds of distinct Indian tribes as primitive as our own Indians were when the first colonists arrived in America."[7] According to Dr. Clements, these are the Mexicans who are known as peons and who immigrate into the United States.

It is generally conceded that the bulk of the immigration from Mexico into the United States is from the pure Indian or the Mestizo stock of the Mexican population.

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF MEXICANS IN CALIFORNIA

Numerous and diverse estimates have been made as to the number of Mexicans at present living in California. The fact is that there is no accurate information available on this subject, and no reliable data will probably be had on this point until the results of the next decennial census are published by the Bureau of the Census of the United States Department of Commerce. In the meantime, all estimates as to the number of Mexicans in the United States or in California, in the absence of an actual enumeration, must be more in the nature of guesses.

It would be unwise and thoroughly fallacious to attempt to estimate the number of Mexicans residing in California at the present time by adding the total or net immigration into California to the total number

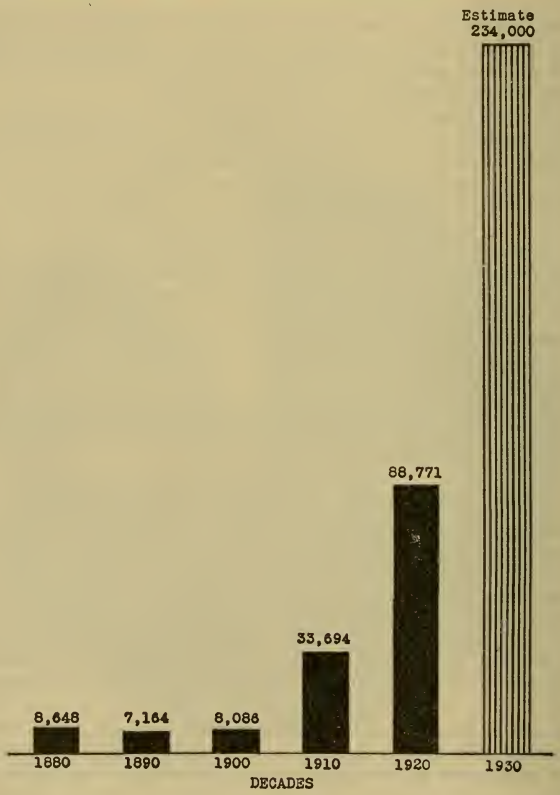
[5] U. S. Immigration Commission: Dictionary of Races or Peoples, Senate Document 662, 61st Congress, 3d Session, 1911, p. 96.

[6] Hearings, Op. cit., p. 309.

[7] See Hearings Before the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, House of Representatives, 70th Congress, 1st Session, on H. R. 6465, H. R. 7358, H. R. 10955, H. R. 11687, February 21 to April 5, 1928, p. 322.

CHART 8

NUMBER OF PERSONS BORN IN MEXICO AND RESIDING IN CALIFORNIA FROM 1900 TO 1920, BY DECADES, AND ESTIMATED NUMBER OF MEXICANS IN CALIFORNIA AS OF 1930.



of Mexicans who resided in California in 1920.[8] These figures would not take into account for migrations from Texas, or other states into California, nor for migrations of Mexicans from California into other states.

One method of estimating the number of Mexicans now residing in California is to assume that the per cent of increase in the Mexican population in this state between 1920 and 1928 has been the same as between 1910 and 1920, namely, 163.5 per cent. Since the Mexican population in 1920 in California was 88,771, an increase of 163.5 per cent between 1920 and 1930 would place the number of Mexicans in California in 1930 at 233,912.

The absolute and percentage increases or decreases in the Mexican population in California from 1880 to 1920 are shown in the following tabulation, and in Chart 8. It will be noticed that between 1880–1890 there was a decrease of 1484 persons in California who were born in Mexico, but that since 1890 the Mexican population in California increased considerably. The greatest percentage increase reported was for the decade 1900–1910.

Decade	Persons born in Mexico and residing in California		
	Number	Increase over preceding year	
		Number	Per cent
1880	8,648		
1890	*7,164	—1,484	—17.2
1900	8,086	922	12.9
1910	33,694	25,608	316.7
1920	88,771	55,077	163.5

*Decrease.

Another way of estimating the present Mexican population of California is to assume that the increase in the Mexican population in each county of the state between 1920 and 1930 will be the same as was the increase of Mexican population in each county between 1910 and 1920. Table 12 shows the estimated Mexican population for each of California counties, and for the state as a whole as of 1930, on this basis.

According to the estimates presented in this table, Los Angeles County should have, by 1930, 95,953 Mexicans. This estimate appears conservative and is probably lower than is the present Mexican population in Los Angeles.

An estimate of the Mexican population in Imperial County, as of February 1, 1927, based upon the Mexican school population of that county, was made by Dr. Paul S. Taylor in his recent study on Mexican Labor in the United States Imperial Valley.[9] According to this estimate the Mexican population of Imperial County as of February 1, 1927, was 20,000. This "conservative estimate" is about 8000 less than the estimate for Imperial County submitted in Table 12. But

[8] Data on net increase in population due to excess of immigration over emigration are not pubilshed by the Commissioner General of Immigration for individual states.

[9] "Mexican Labor in the United States Imperial Valley," by Paul S. Taylor, University of California Publications in Economics, Volume 6, No. 1, 1928, p. 18.

since the present estimate is for 1930 it does not appear to be in conflict with the estimate made by Dr. Taylor.

TABLE 12. ESTIMATED NUMBER OF FOREIGN-BORN WHITE MEXICANS IN CALIFORNIA COUNTIES AS OF 1930

(In this table the number of Mexicans in 1930 in each county in California has been arrived at by multiplying the number in each county in 1920 by the percentage of increase in the number of Mexicans in that county between 1910–1920.)

Counties	Number of Mexicans in 1910	Number of Mexicans in 1920	Estimated number of Mexicans in 1930
Total	33,444	*86,610	**262,801
Alameda	496	1,575	5,000
Amador	6	77	988
Butte	63	134	285
Calaveras	58	65	72
Colusa	23	190	1,570
Contra Costa	408	733	1,317
Del Norte	2		
El Dorado	9	32	113
Fresno	615	3,162	16,255
Glenn	29	104	373
Humboldt	6	52	451
Imperial	1,461	6,414	28,157
Inyo	296	122	50
Kern	1,492	1,856	2,307
Kings	278	689	1,707
Lake	2	2	2
Lassen	1	72	5,184
Los Angeles	11,793	33,644	95,953
Madera	412	387	363
Marin	147	284	548
Mariposa	62	36	21
Mendocino	30	70	163
Merced	355	658	1,219
Mono	5	2	1
Monterey	66	332	1,669
Napa	28	53	100
Nevada	13	18	24
Orange	1,345	3,694	10,144
Placer	77	225	657
Plumas	3	57	1,083
Riverside	1,649	4,628	12,991
Sacramento	215	850	3,360
San Benito	51	169	560
San Bernardino	4,510	7,165	11,385
San Diego	2,224	4,104	7,572
San Francisco	1,763	3,793	8,159
San Joaquin	439	1,310	3,909
San Luis Obispo	155	221	315
San Mateo	35	135	520
Santa Barbara	316	1,803	10,286
Santa Clara	242	319	420
Santa Cruz	39	42	45
Shasta	27	144	768
Sierra	2	3	5
Siskiyou	12	139	1,610
Solano	57	61	65
Sonoma	41	80	156
Stanislaus	180	497	1,372
Sutter	7	126	2,268
Tehama	21	93	411
Trinity	5	4	3
Tulare	560	1,746	5,444
Tuolumne	107	170	270
Ventura	1,161	4,079	14,329
Yolo	24	103	442
Yuba	21	87	360

*It will be noticed that while this table gives the total number of Mexicans in California in 1920 as 86,610, the preceding tabulation shows that the total number of Mexicans in California in 1920 was 88,771. Both are census figures, but the smaller figure refers to "foreign born whites," while the higher figure refers to "foreign-born," whites and nonwhites. In order to get comparable figures, it was necessary to use either foreign-born whites or foreign-born in the various tables presented in this report.

**This is the total of the estimated 1930 Mexican population in each county. If the number of Mexicans in California in 1920 were multiplied by 159 per cent, the estimated number in the state in 1930 would be 224,320.

Judging by the figures presented in Table 12, it would appear that the present Mexican population in California is roughly in the neighborhood of 250,000.

COUNTRIES OF BIRTH OF THE FOREIGN-BORN

Increases or decreases in the foreign-born population are, of course, entirely dependent upon net immigration; that is, upon the difference between immigration and emigration of foreign-born persons and upon deaths. The quota restriction laws, as was seen in the preceding chapter, did not go into effect until June 3, 1921; and between 1910–1920 the major force controlling the tides and recesses of immigration was the World War.

In 1910 the Mexicans were 1.4 per cent of the total population and 6.5 per cent of the total foreign-born whites of California. But in 1920 the Mexicans were 2.5 per cent of the total population and 12.7 per cent of the total foreign-born whites in California. In 1910 the foreign-born whites were 21.8 per cent of the total population of California, and in 1920 they were 19.9 per cent of the total population of California.

But, as will be seen in Table 13, the countries of birth of the foreign-born population in California in 1920 were notably different from those in 1910. Thus, in 1910, the foreign-born whites born in Germany, Italy, Ireland, and England constituted 46.6 per cent of the total foreign-born white population in California. In 1920 the foreign whites born in these countries were only 38.2 per cent of the total. In 1910 the foreign-born whites born in Mexico [10] were 6.5 per cent of the total foreign-born whites, while in 1920 they were 12.7 per cent of this total.

TABLE 13. COUNTRIES OF BIRTH OF THE FOREIGN-BORN WHITE PERSONS RESIDING IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA IN 1910 AND IN 1920

Foreign-born whites born in—	Total number in state		Per cent of total		Increase or (—) decrease, 1910-1920	
	1910	1920	1910	1920	Number	Per cent
Total	517,250	681,662	100.0	100.0	164,412	31.8
Atlantic Islands	2,860	8,892	.6	1.3	6,032	210.9
Australia	3,296	4,013	.6	.6	717	21.8
Austria	17,163	13,264	3.3	1.9	—3,899	—22.7
Canada-French	3,109	2,306	.6	.3	—803	—25.8
Canada-Other	41,445	57,256	8.0	8.4	15,811	38.1
Denmark	14,208	18,721	2.8	2.7	4,513	31.8
England	48,667	58,572	9.4	8.6	9,905	20.4
Finland	6,156	7,053	1.2	1.0	897	14.6
France	17,390	20,387	3.4	3.0	2,997	17.2
Germany	76,305	67,180	14.8	9.9	—9,125	—12.0
Greece	7,918	10,313	1.5	1.5	2,395	30.2
Hungary	3,301	5,252	.6	.8	1,951	59.1
Ireland	52,475	45,308	10.1	6.7	—7,167	—13.7
Italy	63,601	88,502	12.3	13.0	24,901	39.2
Mexico	**33,444**	**86,610**	**6.5**	**12.7**	**53,166**	**159.0**
Norway	9,952	11,460	1.9	1.7	1,508	15.2
Portugal	22,427	24,517	4.3	3.6	2,090	9.3
Russia	16,607	27,224	3.2	4.0	10,617	63.9
Scotland	13,694	16,597	2.7	2.4	2,903	21.2
Spain	4,218	11,123	.8	1.6	6,905	163.7
Sweden	26,210	31,925	5.1	4.7	5,715	21.8
Switzerland	14,520	16,097	2.8	2.4	1,577	10.9
Other foreign countries	18,284	49,090	3.5	7.2	30,806	168.5

[10] The Mexicans are classified as whites by the United States census.

Between 1910 and 1920 the number of foreign-born whites born in England increased 20.4 per cent; those born in Italy increased 39.2 per cent; those born in Ireland *decreased* 13.7 per cent, and those born in Germany *decreased* 12.0 per cent. During this decade the increase in the number of foreign-born persons residing in California but born in Mexico was greatest, namely, 53,166, or 159 per cent.[11] The total increase in the number of foreign-born persons residing in California but born in Mexico was 32.3 per cent of the total increase in the number of all foreign-born whites during 1910–1920. This period, as we have seen, marked the beginning of the influx of Mexican immigration into California.

Additional facts concerning the changes in the composition of the foreign-born population of California will be gained by a perusal of the data contained in Table 14. In this table and in Chart 9 are shown only the principal countries of birth of foreign-born, including whites and others, in California, from 1900 to 1920.

While the total increase in the total foreign-born population in California between 1900–1910 was 59.7 per cent, the increase in the number of Mexicans was 316.7 per cent. This was the largest percentage increase reported during this decade. The Japanese showed the next highest percentage increase. During the next decade the percentage increase in the total foreign-born population of California was 29.2; whereas the increase in number of persons born in Mexico was 163.5, the highest percentage increase recorded during the decade.

In Table 14 is shown also a decrease in the number of Chinese during the decade 1910–1920, which was not shown in Table 13, which related only to foreign-born whites.

Of the thirteen principal countries of birth of foreign-born in California enumerated in Table 14, the proportion which those born in Germany, Ireland, China, England, Canada, France, Switzerland, and Scotland, were in the total foreign-born in the state declined between 1900–1920. The proportion which those born in Italy, Japan, and Mexico are in the total foreign-born in the state increased during the same twenty years, and the largest increase is shown for those born in Mexico. Thus, while in 1900 the Mexicans were 2.2 per cent of the total foreign-born in California, in 1920 they were 11.7 of the total foreign-born.

The average annual increase in the total foreign-born population of California between 1900–1910 was 21,919. During the next decade, 1910–1920, this average annual increase was only 17,119; that is, during this decade the annual average increase in the number of foreign-born in California *decreased* by 4800, or 21.9 per cent, compared with the preceding decade. But the average annual increment in the number of Mexicans *increased* from 560 between 1900–1910 to 5507 between 1910–1920, an increase of 2947, or 115 per cent.

The fact that while the rate of increase in the total foreign-born in California *decreased* between 1900–1910 and 1910–1920 the rate of increase in the foreign-born Mexicans *increased* during the same decades, coupled with the fact that under the present quota restriction

[11] Persons born in Spain, in the Atlantic islands, and in "Other foreign countries" showed percentages of increase greater than those shown for Mexicans, but the numbers of these persons are relatively small.

laws about half of the total immigrants coming into California are Mexicans, is very significant as regards the future composition of the foreign-born population of California. If the federal immigration laws will continue to give preference to Mexican immigrants, Mexicans are likely to become the most preponderant foreign-born people in California as compared with immigrants from European countries.

TABLE 14. DISTRIBUTION, ACCORDING TO PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES OF BIRTH, AND NUMBER AND PER CENT OF INCREASE OR DECREASE OF THE FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION RESIDING IN CALIFORNIA IN 1900, 1910, AND 1920

Principal countries of birth	Number in			Per cent of total in			Increase or (—) decrease			
							Number		Per cent	
	1900	1910	1920	1900	1910	1920	1900-1910	1910-1920	1900-1910	1910-1920
Total	367,240	586,432	757,625	100.0	100.0	100.0	219,192	171,193	59.7	29.2
Germany	72,449	75,834	67,185	19.7	12.9	8.9	3,385	—8,649	4.7	—11.4
Ireland	44,476	52,478	45,308	12.1	8.9	6.0	8,002	—7,170	18.0	—15.8
China	40,262	27,764	19,564	11.0	4.7	2.6	—12,498	—8,200	—31.2	—29.5
England	35,746	48,703	58,612	9.7	8.3	7.7	12,957	9,909	36.2	20.3
Canada	29,818	44,677	59,686	8.1	7.6	7.9	14,859	15,009	49.8	33.6
Italy	22,777	63,615	88,504	6.2	10.9	11.7	40,838	24,889	179.3	39.1
Sweden	14,549	26,212	31,926	4.0	4.5	4.2	11,663	5,714	80.2	21.8
France	12,256	17,407	20,401	3.3	3.0	2.7	5,151	2,994	42.0	17.2
Switzerland	10,974	14,521	16,097	3.0	2.5	2.1	3,547	1,576	32.3	10.9
Japan	10,264	38,214	51,191	2.8	6.5	6.7	27,950	12,977	272.3	34.0
Scotland	9,467	13,695	16,597	2.6	2.3	2.2	4,228	2,902	44.7	21.2
Denmark	9,040	14,209	18,721	2.5	2.4	2.5	5,169	4,512	57.2	31.8
Mexico	8,086	33,694	88,771	2.2	5.7	11.7	25,608	55,077	316.7	163.5
All others	47,076	115,409	175,062	12.8	19.8	23.1	68,333	59,653	145.2	51.7

DISTRIBUTION OF MEXICANS BY COUNTIES

The numerical and percentage distribution of Mexicans in California counties is shown in Table 15 and Chart 10, next presented. In 1920 the first twelve counties listed in this table had 87.7 per cent of all the Mexican residents in California. In 1910 these twelve counties had 86.5 per cent of all Mexicans in the state.

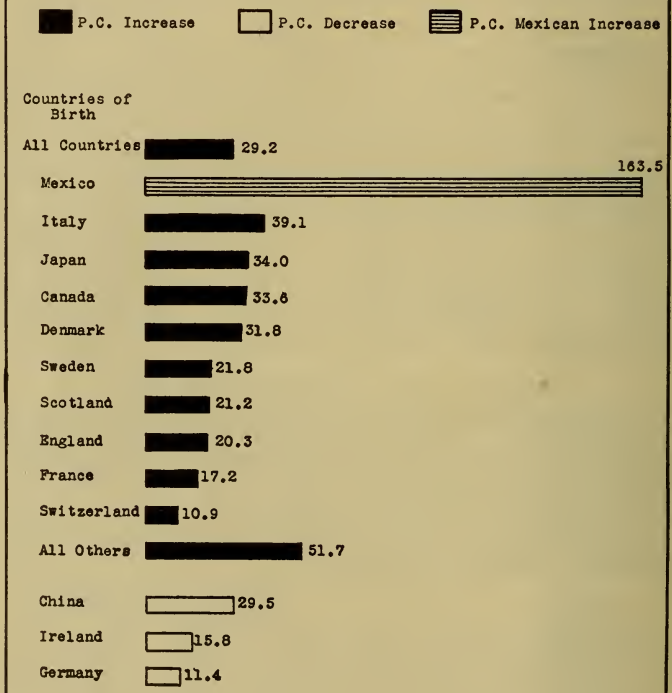
An examination of Table 15 shows that the following ten southern counties of California had, in 1910 and in 1920, 78 per cent of the total Mexican population in the state.

Southern counties	*Per cent Mexican residents of total Mexicans in California in* 1910	1920
Los Angeles	35.3	38.8
San Bernardino	13.5	8.3
Imperial	4.4	7.4
Riverside	4.9	5.3
San Diego	6.7	4.7
Ventura	3.5	4.7
Orange	4.0	4.3
Kern	4.5	2.1
Santa Barbara	.9	2.1
San Luis Obispo	.5	.3
Total	78.2	78.0

Although these ten southern counties had in 1920, 78 per cent of the total Mexican population of the state, these counties had in 1920

CHART 9

PERCENTAGES OF INCREASE OR DECREASE FROM 1910 TO 1920 IN THE NUMBERS OF FOREIGN-BORN PERSONS RESIDING IN CALIFORNIA, BY COUNTRIES OF BIRTH OF THE FOREIGN-BORN.



only 41 per cent of the total population of the state. This fact is significant, because it shows that the Mexicans concentrate in a few counties of the state.

TABLE 15. NUMBER AND PER CENT DISTRIBUTION OF MEXICANS IN CALIFORNIA IN 1910 AND IN 1920, ARRANGED ACCORDING TO THE COUNTIES HAVING THE HIGHEST PERCENTAGES OF THE TOTAL MEXICANS IN THE STATE

Counties	Rank	Per cent of total in 1920	Number in 1920	Per cent of total in 1910	Number in 1910
Los Angeles	1	38.8	33,644	35.3	11,793
San Bernardino	2	8.3	7,165	13.5	4,510
Imperial	3	7.4	6,414	4.4	1,461
Riverside	4	5.3	4,628	4.9	1,649
San Diego	5	4.7	4,104	6.7	2,224
Ventura	6	4.7	4,079	3.5	1,161
San Francisco	7	4.4	3,793	5.3	1,763
Orange	8	4.3	3,694	4.0	1,345
Fresno	9	3.6	3,162	1.8	615
Kern	10	2.1	1,856	4.5	1,492
Santa Barbara	11	2.1	1,803	.9	316
Tulare	12	2.0	1,746	1.7	560
Alameda	13	1.8	1,575	1.5	496
San Joaquin	14	1.5	1,310	1.3	439
Sacramento	15	1.0	850	.6	215
Contra Costa	16	.8	733	1.2	408
Kings	17	.8	689	.8	278
Merced	18	.8	658	1.1	355
Stanislaus	19	.6	497	.5	180
Madera	20	.4	387	1.2	412
Monterey	21	.4	332	.2	66
Santa Clara	22	.4	319	.7	242
Marin	23	.3	284	.4	147
Placer	24	.3	225	.2	77
San Luis Obispo	25	.3	221	.5	155
Colusa	26	.2	190	.1	23
Tuolumne	27	.2	170	.3	107
San Benito	28	.2	169	.2	51
Shasta	29	.2	144	.1	27
Siskiyou	30	.2	139	(A)	12
San Mateo	31	.2	135	.1	35
Butte	32	.2	134	.2	63
Sutter	33	.1	126	(A)	7
Inyo	34	.1	122	.9	296
Glenn	35	.1	104	.1	29
Yolo	36	.1	103	.1	24
Tehama	37	.1	93	.1	21
Yuba	38	.1	87	.1	21
Sonoma	39	.1	80	.1	41
Amador	40	.1	77	(A)	6
Lassen	41	.1	72	(A)	1
Mendocino	42	.1	70	.1	30
Solano	43	.1	61	.2	57
Calaveras	44	.1	65	.2	58
Plumas	45	.1	57	(A)	3
Napa	46	.1	53	.1	28
Humboldt	47	.1	52	(A)	6
Mariposa	48	(A)	36	.2	62
El Dorado	49	(A)	32	(A)	9
Santa Cruz	50	(A)	42	.1	39
Nevada	51	(A)	18	(A)	13
Trinity	52	(A)	4	(A)	5
Sierra	53	(A)	3	(A)	2
Lake	54	(A)	2	(A)	2
Mono	55	(A)	2	(A)	5
Del Norte	56	----------	----------	(A)	2
Total	----------	100.0	86,610	100.0	33,444

(A) Less than one-tenth of one per cent.

The distribution of Mexicans in California by counties, as of October, 1927, is indicated in Table 16 and Chart 11, which is based upon the census of minors, under eighteen years of age, taken by the California State Board of Education as of that date.

This table supports the fact that the county distribution of Mexicans is now about the same as it was in 1920. The same ten southern counties, shown in the preceding tabulation, which, in 1920, had 78 per cent of all California Mexicans, had 79.2 per cent of all Mexican children as of October, 1927. Again, the same twelve counties which ranked highest as regards their total Mexican population in 1920, shown in

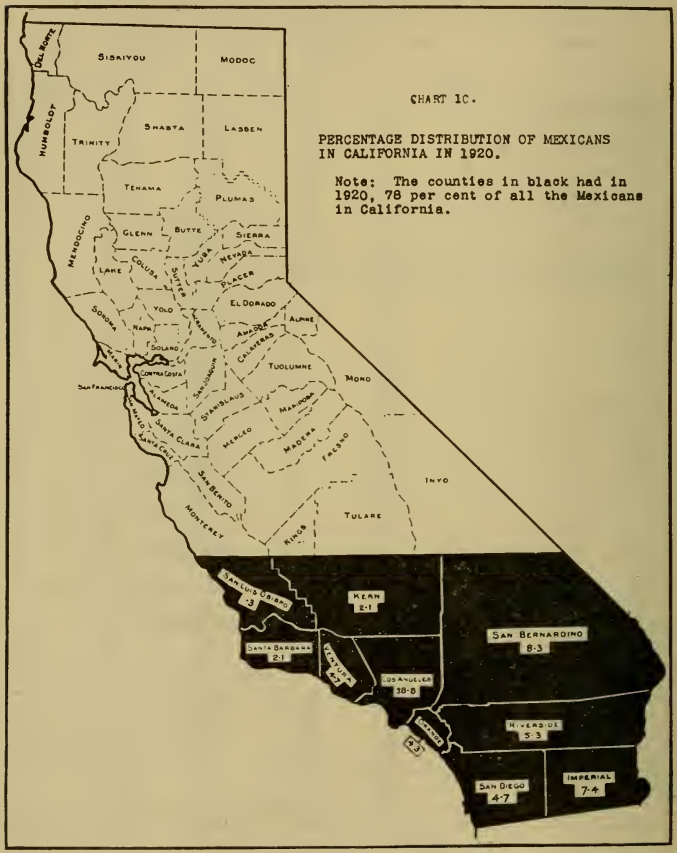


Table 15, were also the counties which ranked highest in October, 1927, as regards their highest number of Mexican children. In 1920 these counties had 87.7 per cent of the total Mexican population in California, and in October, 1927, they had 87.9 per cent of the total Mexican minors under eighteen years.

TABLE 16. NUMBER AND PER CENT OF MEXICAN CHILDREN UNDER EIGHTEEN YEARS OF AGE IN CALIFORNIA IN OCTOBER, 1927, BY COUNTIES*

(Computed from Registration of Minors' Census taken by the California State Department of Education, in October, 1927.)

Counties	Rank	Number of Mexican children	Per cent of total
Total		102,402	100.0
Los Angeles	1	45,659	44.6
San Bernardino	2	6,230	6.1
San Diego	3	5,301	5.2
Orange	4	4,910	4.8
Ventura	5	4,886	4.8
Fresno	6	4,536	4.4
Riverside	7	4,195	4.1
Imperial	8	4,118	4.0
Tulare	9	2,894	2.8
Kern	10	2,876	2.8
Santa Barbara	11	2,428	2.4
San Francisco	12	1,909	1.9
Alameda	13	1,400	1.4
Contra Costa	14	1,367	1.3
Kings	15	1,123	1.1
San Joaquin	16	970	1.0
Santa Clara	17	857	.8
Merced	18	842	.8
Sacramento	19	816	.8
Monterey	20	715	.6
Madera	21	641	.6
Stanislaus	22	429	.4
San Luis Obispo	23	381	.4
Placer	24	344	.3
San Benito	25	268	.3
Lassen	26	262	.3
Yolo	27	239	.2
Tuolumne	28	209	.2
Butte	29	204	.2
Inyo	30	187	.2
Santa Cruz	31	140	.1
San Mateo	32	134	.1
Siskiyou	33	112	.1
Amador	34	106	.1
Colusa	35	99	.1
Solano	36	96	.1
Yuba	37	62	.1
Napa	38	55	.1
Plumas	39	53	.1
Sonoma	40	53	.1
Sutter	41	52	.1
Tehama	42	46	.1
Calaveras	43	40	(A)
Shasta	44	40	(A)
Glenn	45	37	(A)
Humboldt	46	23	(A)
Marin	47	18	(A)
El Dorado	48	13	(A)
Nevada	49	10	(A)
Mendocino	50	8	(A)
Lake	51	4	(A)
Trinity	52	3	(A)
Mariposa	53	2	(A)

*No Mexican children were reported by the school census in Alpine, Del Norte, Modoc, Mono, and Sierra counties.

(A)Less than one-tenth of one per cent.

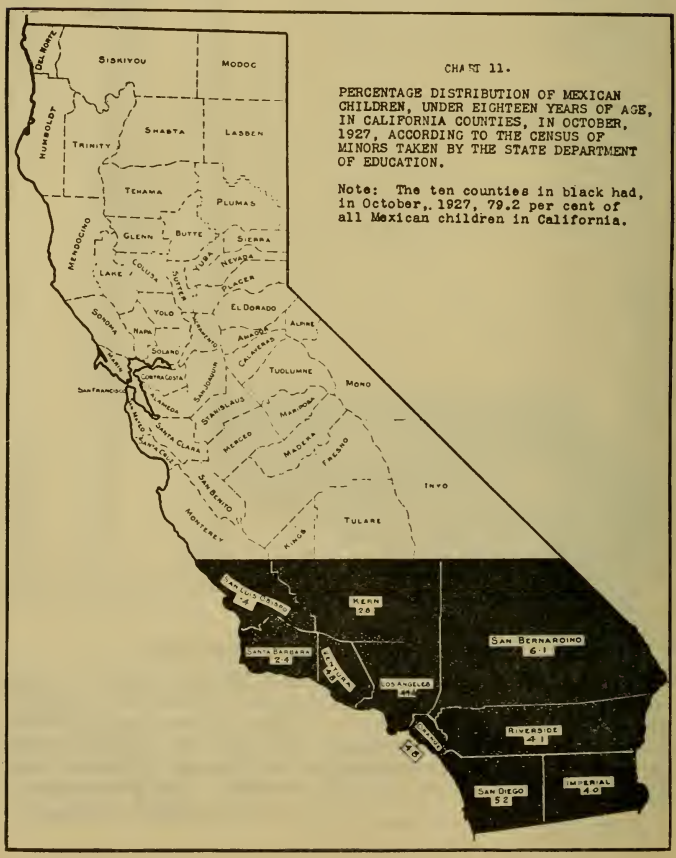
INCREASE OF MEXICANS BY COUNTIES

It was already shown above that between 1910 and 1920 the number of foreign-born white Mexicans in California increased from 33,444 to 86,610, or 159 per cent.[12] Table 17 and Chart 12 show that this increase was not at all uniform throughout the state, and that in several counties of the state the increases in the Mexican population were much greater than in the remaining counties. The percentages of

[12] These figures refer to foreign-born whites born in Mexico, as classified by U. S. census data.

increase in the counties which had more than 500 Mexicans in 1910 and in 1920 were as follows:

Counties which had more than 500 Mexicans in 1910 and in 1920	*Percentages of increase between 1910–1920*
Fresno	414.1
Imperial	339.0
Ventura	251.3
Tulare	211.8
Los Angeles	185.2
Riverside	180.7
Orange	174.6
San Francisco	115.1
San Diego	84.5
San Bernardino	58.9
Kern	24.3



In some counties which had less than 500 Mexican residents in 1910 the percentages of increase between 1910 and 1920 are greater than the percentage increase in the state as a whole. Thus, the percentage of increase in Alameda County was 217.5; in Sacramento, 295.3; in San Joaquin, 198.4; in Santa Barbara, 470.5; and in Stanislaus, 176.1.

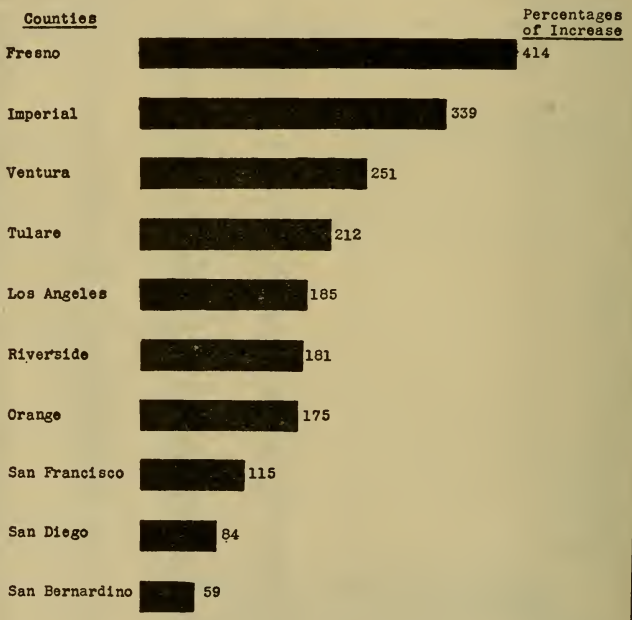
TABLE 17. INCREASE OR DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF WHITE PERSONS BORN IN MEXICO AND RESIDING IN CALIFORNIA FROM 1910 TO 1920, BY COUNTIES
(Computed from United States Census data)

Counties	Number of Mexicans in 1910	Number of Mexicans in 1920	Increase or (—) decrease 1910-1920	
			Number	Per cent
Total	33,444	86,610	53,166	159.0
Alameda	496	1,575	1,079	217.5
Amador	6	77	71	(1)
Butte	63	134	71	(1)
Calaveras	58	65	7	(1)
Colusa	23	190	167	(1)
Contra Costa	408	733	325	79.7
Del Norte	2		—2	(1)
El Dorado	9	32	23	(1)
Fresno	615	3,162	2,547	414.1
Glenn	29	104	75	(1)
Humboldt	6	52	46	(1)
Imperial	1,461	6,414	4,953	339.0
Inyo	296	122	—174	—58.8
Kern	1,492	1,856	364	24.3
Kings	278	689	411	147.8
Lake	2	2	(1)	(1)
Lassen	1	72	71	(1)
Los Angeles	11,793	33,644	21,851	185.2
Madera	412	387	—25	6.1
Marin	147	284	137	93.2
Mariposa	62	36	—26	(1)
Mendocino	30	70	40	(1)
Merced	355	658	303	85.4
Mono	5	2	—3	(1)
Monterey	66	332	266	(1)
Napa	28	53	25	(1)
Nevada	13	18	5	(1)
Orange	1,345	3,694	2,349	174.6
Placer	77	225	148	(1)
Plumas	3	57	54	(1)
Riverside	1,649	4,628	2,979	180.7
Sacramento	215	850	635	295.3
San Benito	51	169	118	(1)
San Bernardino	4,510	7,165	2,655	58.9
San Diego	2,224	4,104	1,880	84.5
San Francisco	1,763	3,793	2,030	115.1
San Joaquin	439	1,310	871	198.4
San Luis Obispo	155	221	66	42.6
San Mateo	35	135	100	(1)
Santa Barbara	316	1,803	1,487	470.5
Santa Clara	242	319	77	31.8
Santa Cruz	39	42	3	(1)
Shasta	27	144	117	(1)
Sierra	2	3	1	(1)
Siskiyou	12	139	127	(1)
Solano	57	61	4	(1)
Sonoma	41	80	39	(1)
Stanislaus	180	497	317	176.1
Sutter	7	126	119	(1)
Tehama	21	93	72	(1)
Trinity	5	4	—1	(1)
Tulare	560	1,746	1,186	211.8
Tuolumne	107	170	63	58.9
Ventura	1,161	4,079	2,918	251.3
Yolo	24	103	79	(1)
Yuba	21	87	66	(1)

[1] Where the number in 1910 was less than 100, the percentage of increase or decrease was not computed.

CHART 12

CALIFORNIA COUNTIES WHICH HAD MORE THAN 500 MEXICANS IN 1910 AND IN 1920, AND IN WHICH THE INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF MEXICANS BETWEEN 1910-1920 WAS IN EXCESS OF 50 PER CENT.



INCREASE OF MEXICANS BY CITIES

It was thus far shown that the Mexicans tend to gather in several counties of the state and that the increase of Mexicans between 1910–1920 was by no means uniform throughout the state. It will be observed in Table 18 and Chart 13 that in the twenty California cities, each of which, in 1920, had a total population of 10,000 or more, the increase in Mexican population between 1910–1920 was 214.8 per cent. During the same period, it will be recalled, the increase in the state was only 159 per cent. The much greater percentage increase for the cities points to the conclusion that the Mexicans tend to concentrate in the cities in preference to the rural communities.

Considering the larger cities, we find that the number of Mexicans living in Los Angeles in 1910 was 5611, compared with 21,598 in 1920, an increase of 15,987, or 284.9 per cent. In San Francisco the increase during this period was 115.1 per cent; in Oakland the increase was 312 per cent; in San Diego the increase was 124.3 per cent; in Long Beach the increase was 269.7 per cent; in Fresno the increase was 236.2 per cent; in Stockton the increase was 288.8 per cent; and in Sacramento the increase was 368.9 per cent.

Data as to the increase in Mexican population in these cities between 1920–1930 will not be available until the publication of the federal census of 1930, but it appears reasonably safe to assume that this movement of Mexicans towards the cities will also be recorded in 1930.

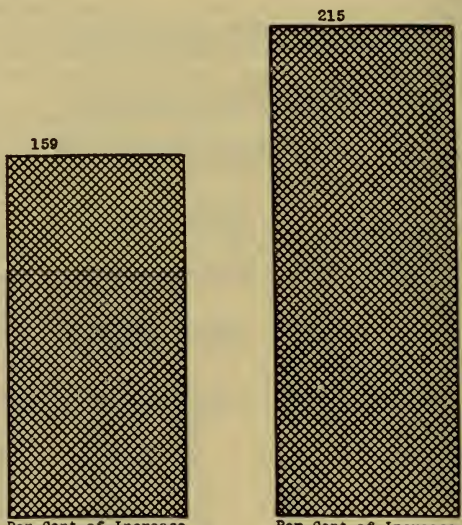
TABLE 18. INCREASE OR DECREASE IN THE NUMBER OF PERSONS BORN IN MEXICO AND RESIDING IN CALIFORNIA FROM 1910 TO 1920, BY CITIES IN WHICH THE TOTAL POPULATION IN 1910 WAS 10,000 OR MORE

Cities	Total population in 1920	Number of Mexicans in 1910	Number of Mexicans in 1920	Increase or (—) decrease 1910-1920	
				Number	Per cent
Total	1,883,638	12,027	37,862	25,835	214.8
Alameda	26,806	83	90	7	(1)
Bakersfield	18,638	352	719	367	104.3
Berkeley	56,036	75	261	186	(1)
Eureka	12,923	4	6	2	(1)
Fresno	45,086	282	948	666	236.2
Long Beach	55,593	122	451	329	269.7
Los Angeles	576,673	5,611	21,598	15,987	284.9
Oakland	216,261	249	1,026	777	312.0
Pasadena	45,354	277	487	210	75.8
Pomona	13,536	116	638	522	450.0
Riverside	19,341	436	1,050	614	140.8
Sacramento	65,908	103	483	380	368.9
San Bernardino	18,721	888	1,989	1,101	124.0
San Diego	74,683	1,222	2,741	1,519	124.3
San Francisco	506,676	1,763	3,793	2,030	115.1
San Jose	39,642	114	106	—8	—7.0
Santa Barbara	19,441	123	730	607	493.5
Santa Cruz	10,917	12	4	—8	(1)
Stockton	40,296	188	731	543	288.8
Vallejo	21,107	7	11	4	(1)

[1] Where the number in 1910 was less than 100, the percentage of increase or decrease was not computed.

CHART 13

PER CENT OF INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF MEXICANS IN CALIFORNIA BETWEEN 1910-1920 COMPARED WITH THE PER CENT OF INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF MEXICANS IN TWENTY CALIFORNIA CITIES DURING SAME PERIOD.



SUMMARY

The facts relating to the racial composition of the Mexican population, and to the number, increases, and distribution of the Mexican population in California presented in this chapter, may be summarized as follows:

1. The racial composition of the people of Mexico may be described as about 10 per cent white stock; 29 per cent pure Indian stock; and 59 per cent Mestizo stock (Chart 7).

2. Between 1910–1920 the number of foreign-born persons in California, born in Mexico, increased 163.5 per cent. During this decade the number of foreign-born whites in California born in Mexico increased 159 per cent.

3. The present Mexican population in California, estimated on the basis of the percentages of increase in each county between 1910–1920, is probably in the neighborhood of 250,000. This estimate is considered conservative (Table 12).

4. In 1910 the Mexicans were 6.5 per cent of the total foreign-born whites in the State of California; but in 1920 this proportion rose to 12.7 (Table 13).

5. The increase in the number of Mexicans between 1910–1920 in California was greater than the increase in the numbers of any other foreign people in California during the same decade (Table 13).

6. While the rate of increase in the total foreign-born in California *decreased* by 21.9 per cent between 1900–1910 and 1910–1920, the rate of increase in the foreign-born Mexicans *increased* during the same period by 115 per cent (Table 14).

7. If the federal immigration laws will continue to give preference to Mexican immigrants, Mexicans are likely to become the most preponderant foreign-born people in California as compared with immigrants from European countries.

8. In 1910 and in 1920 the ten southern counties of Imperial, Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura had 78 per cent of the total Mexican population in California (Table 15).

9. These same ten southern counties had in October, 1927, 79.2 per cent of all Mexican children under eighteen years of age residing in California (Table 16).

10. While, between 1910–1920, the increase in the number of Mexicans in California, as a whole, was 159 per cent, the increases in the numbers of Mexicans in Fresno, Imperial, Ventura, Tulare, Los Angeles, Riverside, and Orange counties, in order named, were much greater than 159 per cent (Table 17).

11. While, between 1910–1920, the increase in the number of Mexicans in California, as a whole, was 159 per cent, the increase in the number of Mexicans in twelve California cities was, during the same decade, 214.8 per cent. In Los Angeles the increase was 284.9 per cent; in Oakland it was 312 per cent; in Sacramento it was 368.9 per cent; and in San Francisco the increase was 115.1 per cent (Table 18).

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CHAPTER III

NATURALIZATION OF MEXICANS

IN THE UNITED STATES

In view of the large increase in Mexican immigration in recent years, it becomes an important question whether the immigrant alien from Mexico is likely to become Americanized to the extent of participating in the political life of the United States or of the state in which he settles. The immigrants who seek to become citizens of their country of choice are generally considered as more desirable from the standpoint of the political homogeny and solidarity of the nation.

The federal census data show that in 1910 there were 102,009 foreign-born male Mexicans, twenty-one years of age and over, in the United States and that of this total 10,932, or 10.7 per cent, were naturalized. The corresponding percentage for the foreign-born males of all countries naturalized was 45.6. In 1920 the number of foreign-born male Mexicans, twenty-one years of age and over, was 189,974, of whom 6363, or 3.3 per cent, were naturalized. The corresponding percentage for the foreign-born males of all countries naturalized was 47.8. These figures show a decrease in the *number* and *percentage* of naturalized Mexican males, twenty-one years of age and over, from 1910 to 1920. In 1910, as shown, the number of naturalized Mexican males, twenty-one years of age and over, was 10,932; and in 1920 it was 6363, a decrease of 4569, or 42.0 per cent. This large decrease in the *number* of naturalized Mexican males in 1920 may be accounted for by the possibility that during the World War many naturalized Mexicans returned to their native land to avoid military service.

Prior to 1920 the census did not report citizenship status for both males and females, but in 1920 this information is given by the census. According to the census of that year, the total number of males and females, twenty-one years of age and over, in the United States, born in Mexico, was 319,697, of whom 17,624, or 5.5 per cent, were naturalized. The corresponding percentage naturalized among all foreign-born males and females, twenty-one years of age and over, in the United States in 1920 was 49.7.

Again, of the 478,383 foreign-born whites, males and females of all ages, born in Mexico but residing in the United States in 1920, 22,732, or 4.8 per cent, were naturalized. The corresponding percentage naturalized among all foreign-born in the United States in 1920 was 47.2.

The following figures, taken from the reports of the Commissioner of Naturalization of the United States Department of Labor, show the numbers of aliens, by nationalities, who were admitted to citizenship during the five fiscal years ended June 30, 1928.

Nationalities	*Number admitted to citizenship during five fiscal years ended June 30, 1928*	*Per cent of total*
All nationalities	881,785	100.0
Poland	149,763	17.0
Italy	179,699	20.4
British Empire:		
Canada	30,805	3.5
England	34,763	3.9
Ireland	43,080	4.9
Scotland	14,790	1.7
Wales	1,936	.2
Australia	595	.1
Others	8,191	.9
Total	134,160	15.2
Russia	83,266	9.5
Germany	41,536	4.7
Czecho-Slovakia	39,191	4.4
Hungary	24,557	2.8
Greece	32,880	3.7
Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slavs	26,064	3.0
Sweden	20,444	2.3
Rumania	21,577	2.4
Austria	17,465	2.0
Turkey	19,545	2.2
Norway	11,961	1.4
Holland	8,636	1.0
Denmark	7,866	.9
Finland	6,442	.7
France	5,425	.6
Switzerland	6,527	.7
Belgium	4,608	.5
Portugal	2,601	.3
Spain	2,386	.3
Central South America	1,307	.1
Bulgaria	1,191	.1
Luxemburg	630	.1
MEXICO	497	.1
All others	31,561	3.6

The tabulation shows that the Mexicans were only one-tenth of one per cent of the total number of aliens admitted to citizenship during the five fiscal years considered. But in 1920 the total number of aliens, males and females, twenty-one years of age and over, was 4,364,909, of whom 285,122, or 6.5 per cent, were alien Mexicans. Even allowing for the relative inadequacy of these figures, the conclusion appears unavoidable that the proportion of Mexicans naturalized during these five fiscal years is much below the proportion which the Mexicans were of the total aliens in the United States during these five years.

It appears certain from the preceding tabulation that while the number of naturalized Mexicans will be greater in 1930 than it was in 1920, the percentage naturalized of the total foreign-born whites born in Mexico will be even lower in 1930 than it was in 1920. This supposition appears fully justified in view of the large increase of alien Mexicans in the United States since 1920 referred to in a preceding chapter of this report.

IN CALIFORNIA

The preceding data are for the country as a whole. The following tabulation shows the citizenship status of all foreign-born white males, twenty-one years of age and over, and of Mexican white males, twenty-one years of age and over, who resided in California in 1910 and in 1920.

Citizenship	Foreign-born males, 21 years of age and over							
	Total foreign-born (exclusive of Mexicans)				Total Mexicans			
	1910		1920		1910		1920	
	Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total
Total	279,358	100.0	330,378	100.0	18,007	100.0	36,962	100.0
Naturalized	136,240	48.8	165,294	50.0	1,034	5.7	1,005	2.7
Having first papers	27,585	9.9	42,455	12.9	123	.7	407	1.1
Aliens	85,792	30.7	100,523	30.4	14,148	78.6	33,484	90.6
Not reported	29,741	10.6	22,106	6.7	2,702	15.0	2,066	5.6

These figures, computed from the federal census data, show that between 1910–1920 the proportion of naturalized among foreign-born males, exclusive of Mexicans, increased from 48.8 to 50.0 per cent and that the corresponding proportion for Mexican males declined during the same period from 5.7 to 2.7 per cent.

It will be noted that while the number naturalized among the foreign-born, twenty-one years of age and over, exclusive of Mexicans, *increased* from 136,240 in 1910 to 165,294 in 1920, an *increase* of 29,054, or 21.3 per cent, the corresponding number of Mexican males, twenty-one years of age and over, *decreased* from 1034 in 1910 to 1005 in 1920, a *decrease* of 29, or 2.8 per cent.

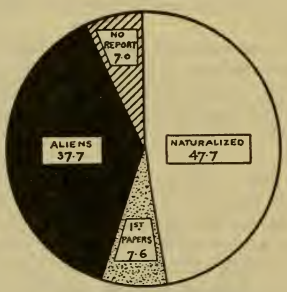
Table 19 and Chart 14, next presented, show the citizenship status of foreign-born white males and females residing in California, in 1920, by countries of birth. A perusal of this table brings to light the interesting fact that of all the foreign-born whites, twenty-one years of age and over, who resided in California in 1920, the Mexicans showed the lowest percentage naturalized. Thus, while the percentage naturalized of all foreign-born whites, males and females, was 47.7, the corresponding percentage for the Mexicans was 4.9.

In Table 19 the number of Mexicans naturalized in 1920 is shown as 3008. This represents 1005 males and 2003 females. Corresponding data for 1910 are not available; but the fact that in 1920 the number of naturalized Mexican women was almost double the number of naturalized Mexican males seems to support the probability, already referred to, that many Mexican males who were naturalized between 1910 and 1920 had left the United States during the World War, probably to avoid military service.

Next to the Mexicans, the Spanish showed the lowest percentage naturalized, namely, 8.6 per cent of the total number of 8853 Spaniards who resided in California in 1920. The countries which showed percentages of naturalized in excess of 47.7 per cent, which was the percentage for all countries, were the following:

CHART 14

CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF THE FOREIGN-BORN WHITE MALE AND FEMALE POPULATION, TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, WHO RESIDED IN CALIFORNIA IN 1920.



Total All Foreign-Born

Total Born in Mexico

Country of birth	*Percentages naturalized in 1920*
All countries	47.7
Germany	71.8
Denmark	70.4
Ireland	69.0
Sweden	68.0
Norway	65.9
Canada and Newfoundland	61.6
Wales	61.1
Scotland	60.8
England	60.6
Switzerland	57.8
Poland	57.6
Czecho-Slovakia	57.4
Rumania	55.9
Belgium and Luxemburg	55.2
France	54.1
Hungary	50.8
Holland	48.1

It must be remembered, in this connection, that the Mexican immigration in the United States is relatively new and that the average Mexican now in this country has been here a much shorter time than any of the peoples enumerated above, whose naturalization records are much higher than for the Mexicans.

TABLE 19. CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF THE FOREIGN-BORN WHITE MALE AND FEMALE POPULATION, TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE AND OVER, IN CALIFORNIA IN 1920, BY COUNTRIES OF BIRTH

(Computed from U. S. census data)

Countries of birth	Number				
	Total in California	Naturalized	Having first papers	Aliens	Not reported
Total	614,381	293,475	46,495	231,671	42,740
England	54,820	33,251	4,368	12,975	4,226
Scotland	15,610	9,489	1,315	3,571	1,235
Wales	3,287	2,009	254	753	271
Ireland	44,722	30,858	2,423	6,851	4,580
Norway	11,112	7,318	996	2,006	792
Sweden	31,265	21,263	2,554	5,498	1,950
Denmark	18,203	12,820	1,496	2,783	1,104
Netherlands	4,161	2,002	615	1,271	273
Belgium and Luxemburg	2,460	1,358	292	617	193
Switzerland	15,516	8,955	1,313	4,135	1,113
France	19,354	10,477	1,787	5,570	1,520
Germany	66,101	47,524	5,136	8,310	5,131
Poland	6,721	3,872	793	1,630	426
Czecho-Slavakia	3,245	1,862	400	756	227
Austria	12,650	5,940	1,613	4,187	910
Hungary	4,863	2,468	637	1,454	304
Jugo-Slavia	6,938	1,897	1,050	3,640	351
Russia	23,495	10,481	2,101	9,593	1,320
Lithuania	246	113	38	87	8
Finland	6,817	3,074	853	2,450	440
Rumania	2,198	1,228	218	611	141
Bulgaria and Turkey-in-Europe	502	164	84	227	27
Greece	9,920	1,845	1,266	6,236	573
Italy	80,179	21,185	7,998	47,557	3,439
Spain	8,853	759	476	7,142	476
Portugal	21,675	5,519	1,106	13,825	1,225
Armenia	5,046	1,933	423	2,356	334
Syria	1,152	390	123	572	67
Canada and Newfoundland	52,854	32,562	2,913	12,463	4,916
Mexico	**60,546**	**3,008**	**471**	**53,818**	**3,249**
West Indies	645	242	58	227	118
Central and South America	2,866	844	255	1,429	338
All others	16,359	6,755	1,070	7,071	1,463

TABLE 19—Continued

Countries of birth	Per cent of total				
	Total in California	Naturalized	Having first papers	Aliens	Not reported
Total	100.0	47.7	7.6	37.7	7.0
England	100.0	60.6	8.0	23.7	7.7
Scotland	100.0	60.8	8.4	22.9	7.9
Wales	100.0	61.1	7.7	22.9	8.3
Ireland	100.0	69.0	5.4	15.3	10.3
Norway	100.0	65.9	9.0	18.0	7.1
Sweden	100.0	68.0	8.2	17.6	6.2
Denmark	100.0	70.4	8.2	15.3	6.1
Holland	100.0	48.1	14.8	30.5	6.6
Belgium and Luxemburg	100.0	55.2	11.9	25.1	7.8
Switzerland	100.0	57.8	8.4	26.6	7.1
France	100.0	54.1	9.2	28.8	7.9
Germany	100.0	71.8	7.8	12.6	7.8
Poland	100.0	57.6	11.8	24.3	6.3
Czecho-Slavakia	100.0	57.4	12.3	23.3	7.0
Austria	100.0	47.0	12.8	33.1	7.1
Hungary	100.0	50.8	13.1	29.9	6.2
Jugo-Slavia	100.0	27.3	15.1	52.5	5.1
Russia	100.0	44.6	8.9	40.9	5.6
Lithuania	100.0	45.9	15.4	35.4	3.3
Finland	100.0	45.1	12.5	35.9	6.5
Rumania	100.0	55.9	9.9	27.8	6.4
Bulgaria and Turkey-in-Europe	100.0	32.7	16.7	45.2	5.4
Greece	100.0	18.5	12.8	62.9	5.8
Italy	100.0	26.4	10.0	59.3	4.3
Spain	100.0	8.6	5.4	80.6	5.4
Portugal	100.0	25.5	5.1	63.8	5.6
Armenia	100.0	38.3	8.4	46.7	6.6
Syria	100.0	33.9	10.7	49.6	5.8
Canada and Newfoundland	100.0	61.6	5.5	23.6	9.3
Mexico	**100.0**	**4.9**	**.8**	**88.9**	**5.4**
West Indies	100.0	37.5	9.0	35.2	18.3
Central and South America	100.0	29.4	8.9	49.9	11.8
All others	100.0	41.3	6.5	43.2	9.0

FIRST AND FINAL CITIZENSHIP PAPERS

Among many other requirements of the law regarding naturalization of foreign-born is the one which provides for the declaration of one's intention to become a citizen, at least two years prior to his application for citizenship. The declaration of intention papers are known as the first papers; while the citizenship papers are referred to as the final papers.

An alien may declare his intention to become a citizen of the United States immediately upon his arrival, if he wishes to; but he may not apply for the final papers before two years have elapsed after securing the first papers.

The petitioner for the final papers must prove legal entry into the United States and must present two witnesses, citizens of the United States, to prove his uninterrupted residence in this country for five years and one year's residence in the state in which he applies. An alien who has declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States must file his petition for the final papers within seven years after securing his first papers; otherwise, the first papers become void, and the alien must again declare his intention to become a citizen.

In Table 20 are presented data showing the number of California aliens, by nationalities, who declared their intention to become citizens during the calendar year 1927.

It will be seen from this table and in Chart 15 that during the calendar year 1927, 13,165 aliens in California declared their intention

to become citizens of the United States. Of this total 260, or 2 per cent, were aliens born in Mexico. While the average number of years all declarants resided in the United States before declaring their intentions was 10.5, the Mexican aliens resided in the United States 14.8 years before they declared their intention to become citizens. The nationalities of the declarants who resided in the United States longer than the Mexicans before they took out their first papers were these, in order named:

Nationalities of the declarants	*Number*	*Average number of years in the United States*
Armenian	2	19.0
Austrian	171	16.9
Greek	349	17.1
Lithuanian	29	15.9
Jugo-Slavakian	253	15.7
Hungarian	91	15.1
Syrian	52	14.9

TABLE 20. NUMBER AND PER CENT OF FOREIGN-BORN PERSONS RESIDING IN CALIFORNIA WHO DECLARED THEIR INTENTION TO BECOME CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1927 AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF YEARS THESE DECLARANTS RESIDED IN THE UNITED STATES BEFORE DECLARING THEIR INTENTIONS, BY NATIONALITIES*

Nationalities	Number	Per cent of total	Average number of years in United States
Total	13,165	100.0	10.5
Armenian	2	(a)	19.0
Austrian	171	1.3	16.9
Belgian	58	.4	10.3
Bulgarian	16	.1	13.4
Canadian	1,555	11.8	7.4
Central American	40	.3	6.2
Czecho-Slavakian	77	.6	14.6
Danish	336	2.6	8.5
Dutch	192	1.5	8.9
English	1,756	13.3	8.4
Esthonian	15	.1	9.0
Expatriate Americans	23	.1	4.5
Filipinos	30	.2	9.6
Finnish	108	.8	14.7
French	231	1.8	11.7
German	1,360	10.3	7.2
Greek	349	2.7	17.1
Hungarian	91	.7	15.1
Irish	732	5.6	8.3
Italian	2,286	17.5	13.7
Jugo-Slavakian	253	1.9	15.7
Latvian	29	.2	13.3
Lithuanian	29	.2	15.9
Mexican	**260**	**2.0**	**14.8**
Norwegian	287	2.2	10.0
Persian	8	.1	11.5
Polish	202	1.5	14.8
Portuguese	260	2.0	13.4
Russian	530	4.0	12.3
Rumanian	84	.6	14.2
Scotch	538	4.1	6.5
Spanish	124	.9	13.2
South American	66	.5	11.1
Swede	477	3.6	10.8
Swiss	316	2.4	9.2
Syrian	52	.4	14.9
Turk	171	1.3	13.5
Welsh	51	.4	7.0

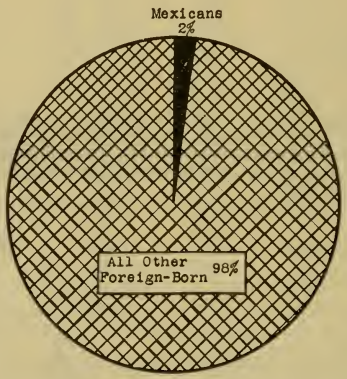
* These data were secured for the Mexican Fact-Finding Committee by the Division of Housing and Sanitation of the Department of Industrial Relations.

(a) Less than one-tenth of one per cent.

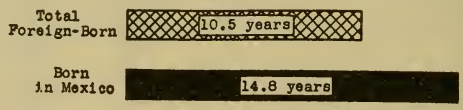
Of the thirty-eight nationalities listed in Table 20, twenty-nine nationalities had been in the United States a shorter time than the Mexicans before declaring their intentions to become citizens of this country. The Polish declarants had been in the United States 14.8 years, the

CHART 15

PER CENT MEXICAN AND OTHER FOREIGN-BORN PERSONS RESIDING IN CALIFORNIA OF THE TOTAL FOREIGN-BORN WHO DECLARED THEIR INTENTION TO BECOME CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1927.



AVERAGE NUMBER OF YEARS WHICH THE MEXICANS AND OTHERS RESIDED IN THE UNITED STATES BEFORE DECLARING THEIR INTENTION TO BECOME CITIZENS.



same length of time as the Mexicans, before they declared their intention to become citizens of this country.

The following table (Table 21) shows the differences in the average number of years in the United States of all alien declarants, Mexican and others, and of alien Mexican declarants, by counties, in which there were Mexican and other declarants.

It will be seen in Table 21 and Chart 16 that the total number of declarants in Los Angeles County was 4846, of whom 149, or 3.1 per cent, were Mexican declarants. In 1920 the Mexicans were 20.2 per cent of the total foreign-born whites in Los Angeles County, and in 1927 this percentage was undoubtedly greater. The average number of years in the United States of all aliens who declared their intention to become citizens in Los Angeles County was 9.4, compared with 14.5 years for the alien Mexicans.

In San Francisco County the total number of declarants was 3768, of whom 38, or 1 per cent, were Mexicans. In 1920 the Mexicans were 2.7 per cent of the total foreign born whites in San Francisco County. In this county the average number of years in the United States of all aliens who declared their intention to become citizens was 10.4, compared with 14.3 years for the alien Mexicans.

The same comparisons for the other counties shown in Table 21 are not so significant, because of the small numbers of Mexicans in those counties.

TABLE 21. AVERAGE NUMBER OF YEARS ALL ALIEN DECLARANTS AND ALL MEXICAN DECLARANTS WERE IN THE UNITED STATES BEFORE DECLARING THEIR INTENTION IN CALIFORNIA, IN 1927, TO BECOME CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES, BY COUNTIES

Counties	Aliens of all nationalities		Alien Mexicans only	
	Number applying for first papers	Average number of years in United States	Number applying for first papers	Average number of years in United States
Total	12,059	10.4	260	14.8
Alameda	1,253	11.2	15	11.1
Los Angeles	4,846	9.4	149	14.5
San Francisco	3,768	10.4	38	14.3
San Diego	288	12.0	11	18.1
Santa Clara	247	11.4	2	19.0
San Mateo	214	11.0	1	5.0
Contra Costa	229	10.8	3	10.3
Kings	32	10.7	1	24.0
Imperial	49	13.4	6	16.0
Kern	83	13.2	2	21.0
Merced	78	12.6	2	16.0
Fresno	287	15.3	5	14.2
Sacramento	159	11.5	4	21.0
Placer	46	12.8	1	11.0
Ventura	35	13.2	4	16.5
Orange	55	8.5	1	21.0
Santa Barbara	137	10.6	4	18.3
San Bernardino	89	13.5	4	16.8
Riverside	55	11.9	2	23.0
Solano	51	12.7	2	11.0
Inyo	10	11.8	1	18.0
Lassen	26	9.9	1	22.0
San Luis Obispo	22	9.3	1	13.0

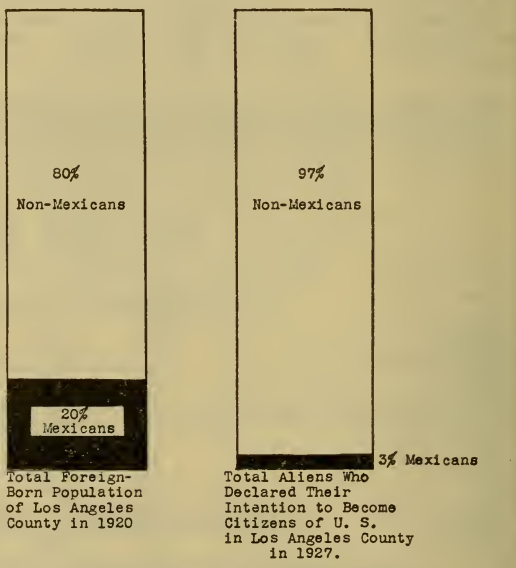
Table 22, next following, shows how long the declarants were in the United States before taking out their first papers, by counties in which the declarations of intention were made.

It will be seen that there is considerable difference, as between counties, in the average number of years the declarants of intention were in the United States. Thus, in Fresno County, 287 declarants were 15.3 years in the United States before applying for the first papers; while in San Diego County, with 288 declarants, the average number of years was 12. The 229 declarants in Contra Costa County were in

this country 10.8 years at the time of declaring their intention to become citizens; whereas, the 247 declarants in Santa Clara County were in the United States 11.4 years before taking out the first papers.

CHART 16

PERCENTAGES WHICH THE MEXICANS AND NON-MEXICANS WERE OF THE TOTAL FOREIGN-BORN POPULATION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY IN 1920 COMPARED WITH THE PERCENTAGES WHICH THE MEXICANS AND NON-MEXICANS WERE OF THE TOTAL ALIENS WHO DECLARED THEIR INTENTION TO BECOME CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1927.



(Note: In 1927 the foreign-born Mexicans were very likely more than 20 per cent of the total foreign-born of Los Angeles County.)

Listing the three counties having the largest numbers of declarants during 1927, we have the following tabulation:

Counties	*Number of declarants*	*Average number of years in the United States*
Alameda	1,253	11.2
Los Angeles	4,846	9.4
San Francisco	3,768	10.4

TABLE 22. NUMBER OF FOREIGN-BORN PERSONS RESIDING IN CALIFORNIA WHO DECLARED THEIR INTENTIONS TO BECOME CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1927 AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF YEARS THESE DECLARANTS RESIDED IN THE UNITED STATES BEFORE DECLARING THEIR INTENTIONS, BY COUNTIES*

Counties	Number	Per cent of total	Average number of years in the United States
Total	13,165	100.0	10.5
Alameda	1,253	9.6	11.2
Amador	4	(a)	11.0
Butte	26	.2	8.2
Calaveras	4	(a)	13.3
Colusa	7	.1	3.9
Contra Costa	229	1.7	10.8
Del Norte	8	.1	10.4
El Dorado	10	.1	20.5
Fresno	287	2.2	15.3
Glenn	11	.1	9.7
Humboldt	115	.9	11.8
Imperial	49	.4	13.4
Inyo	10	.1	11.8
Kern	83	.6	13.2
Kings	32	.2	10.7
Lake	1	(a)	1.0
Lassen	26	.2	9.9
Los Angeles	4,846	36.9	9.4
Madera	18	.1	12.4
Marin	81	.6	11.0
Mariposa	3	(a)	10.3
Mendocino	18	.1	14.8
Merced	78	.6	12.6
Modoc	4	(a)	12.2
Mono	2	(a)	6.0
Monterey	100	.8	11.5
Napa	42	.3	15.3
Nevada	8	.1	6.8
Orange	55	.4	8.5
Placer	46	.3	12.8
Plumas	3	(a)	21.0
Riverside	55	.4	11.9
Sacramento	159	1.2	11.5
San Benito	18	.1	14.2
San Bernardino	89	.7	13.5
San Diego	288	2.2	12.0
San Francisco	3,768	28.7	10.4
San Joaquin	189	1.4	13.7
San Luis Obispo	22	.2	9.3
San Mateo	214	1.6	11.0
Santa Barbara	137	1.0	10.6
Santa Clara	247	1.9	11.4
Santa Cruz	53	.4	11.2
Shasta	13	.1	17.9
Sierra	2	(a)	12.0
Siskiyou	42	.3	11.8
Solano	51	.4	12.7
Sonoma	147	1.1	12.1
Stanislaus	68	.5	13.1
Sutter	14	.1	6.8
Tehama	3	(a)	6.3
Tulare	58	.4	13.2
Tuolumne	10	.1	11.5
Ventura	35	.3	13.2
Yolo	14	.1	6.3
Yuba	10	.1	6.1

*No report from Alpine and Trinity counties.
(a) Less than one-tenth of one per cent.

One of the striking points presented in the preceding tables is the small total number of alien Mexicans who declared their intention to become citizens of the United States during the calendar year 1927. Data are not available as to the total percentage which the Mexicans were of the total foreign-born in California in 1927, but in 1920 this

percentage was 12.7.[1] Still of the total number of 13,165 declarants in 1927, the number of Mexicans was only 260, or 2 per cent. These percentages indicate clearly that the Mexicans lag far behind the foreign-born, as a whole, in their expressed intentions to become citizens of the United States.

As already pointed out above, an alien must prove that he entered this country legally when he applies for the final citizenship papers. But since the large numbers of Mexicans who entered this country illegally will not be able to prove their legal admission into the United States, they are automatically prevented from becoming citizens of this country.

Americanization teachers in California frequently comment upon the fact that few Mexicans ever become American citizens, even after securing their first papers. The Mexicans are described as proud of their country of birth and slow to assimilate.

The fact that the interval between the arrival of the alien and his declaration of intention to become a citizen of the United States varies considerably in California counties, as shown in Table 22, suggests the probability that not all counties are as diligent in their efforts to Americanize their alien residents. Undoubtedly, the willingness, or urge, to become citizens is a matter which can be developed in aliens largely by the attitude of the natives surrounding them. The fact that in many localities in California the Mexicans are prevented from living in the same districts with natives, or with already assimilated groups of foreign-born, is militating against Americanization efforts. The same is true of the social isolation to which Mexicans are subjected in many communities and to which reference is made elsewhere in this report. We should not expect the Mexicans to be eager to become citizens when they are made to feel that they are persons with whom we do not desire to associate.

Whatever the causes are for the apparent lack of interest on the part of Mexicans to become citizens of the United States, the fact is significant because under the present federal immigration quota laws about half of the aliens who are now coming to California are Mexicans.

SUMMARY

The statistics presented in this chapter, relating to the naturalization of Mexicans in the United States and in the State of California are summarized below:

1. While in 1910, 10.7 per cent of all male Mexicans in the United States, twenty-one years of age and over, were naturalized, in 1920 this proportion declined to 3.3.

2. Not only was there a decline in the *percentage* of Mexicans naturalized between 1910–1920, but the *number* of Mexicans naturalized *decreased* between 1910–1920 by 42 per cent.

3. In 1920 the percentage naturalized of all foreign-born males, twenty-one years of age and over, in the United States was 47.8, compared with 3.3 per cent of Mexicans naturalized.

[1] It may be safely assumed that in 1927 the percentage which the Mexicans were of the total foreign-born in the state was considerably greater.

4. Considering both males and females, twenty-one years of age and over, the federal census of 1920 shows that among the Mexicans the percentage naturalized was 5.5, compared with the corresponding percentage of 49.7 for all foreign-born.

5. Of the total number of aliens admitted to United States citizenship during five fiscal years ended June 30, 1928, only one-tenth of one per cent were Mexicans. In 1920 the alien male and female Mexicans, twenty-one years of age and over, were 6.5 per cent of the total aliens twenty-one years of age and over residing in the United States.

6. Judging by the data presented, it appears certain that while the *number* of naturalized Mexicans will be somewhat greater in 1930 than in 1920, the ratio of naturalized Mexicans of the total alien Mexicans in the United States will be lower in 1930 than it was in 1920.

7. Of the total foreign-born males, twenty-one years of age and over, exclusive of Mexicans, residing in California in 1910 the percentage naturalized was 48.8, compared with the corresponding percentage of 5.7 per cent for the Mexicans.

8. Of the total foreign-born males, twenty-one years of age and over, exclusive of Mexicans, residing in California in 1920, the percentage naturalized was 50, compared with the corresponding percentage for Mexicans of 2.7.

9. While the number naturalized between 1910–1920 of the foreign-born males, twenty-one years of age and over, exclusive of Mexicans, residing in California, *increased* 21.3 per cent, the number naturalized of the corresponding group of Mexicans *decreased* during the same period 2.8 per cent.

10. Of all the foreign-born whites, males and females, twenty-one years of age and over, who resided in California in 1920, 47.7 per cent were naturalized, compared with the corresponding percentage of 4.9 for Mexican males and females, twenty-one years of age and over, residing in California in 1920. Of the total foreign-born in California in 1920, the Mexicans showed the lowest percentage naturalized (Table 19).

11. The fact that the number of naturalized Mexicans in the United States and in California decreased between 1910–1920, and the fact that in 1920 the number of naturalized Mexican women in California was nearly double the number of naturalized Mexican men, lends support to the supposition that during the World War many naturalized Mexicans left the United States in order to avoid military service.

12. It must be remembered in connection with these figures of naturalization that the Mexicans are a relatively new immigrant group in the United States and that, therefore, their average length of residence in this country is undoubtedly lower than for most other immigrant groups. This factor accounts in some measure for the smaller percentage of Mexicans naturalized in the United States, as a whole, or in the State of California.

13. During the calendar year 1927, 13,165 aliens residing in California declared their intention to become citizens of the United States. Of this total only 2 per cent were born in Mexico. In 1920 the foreign-born Mexicans were 12.7 per cent of the total foreign-born

residing in California, and this percentage was most likely even greater in 1927.

14. In Los Angeles County, in 1927, 4846 foreign-born persons declared their intention to become citizens of the United States. Of this total, 149, or only 3.1 per cent, were Mexicans (Table 21). In 1920 the Mexicans were 20.2 per cent of the total foreign-born whites in Los Angeles, and in 1927 this proportion was undoubtedly greater.

15. The Mexican declarants lived on the average 14.8 years in the United States before declaring their intention to become citizens, while the declarants of all nationalities, Mexican and non-Mexican, lived 10.5 years in the United States before declaring their intention to become citizens (Table 22).

16. The fact that the interval between the arrival of the alien into the United States and his declaration of intention to become a citizen of the United States varies considerably between California counties, suggests the probability that not all counties are as diligent in their efforts to Americanize their alien residents.

17. When petitioning for final citizenship papers an alien is required to prove his legal admission into the United States. But since large numbers of Mexicans have entered this country illegally, they will not be able to comply with this requirement and will therefore remain aliens.

18. Whatever the causes for the apparent reluctance of Mexicans to become citizens of the United States, the fact is significant because under the present federal immigration quota laws about half of the aliens now coming to California are Mexicans.

Part II

MEXICANS IN INDUSTRIES AND IN NON-AGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS

(Prepared by the Department of Industrial Relations)

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MEXICANS IN NONAGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS

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CHAPTER IV

MEXICANS IN NONAGRICULTURAL OCCUPATIONS

IN MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS

To ascertain to what extent Mexicans are employed in industrial establishments in California, the Fact-Finding Committee sent out 975 questionnaires to as many firms.[1] These schedules asked employers of labor to answer questions regarding (1) total number of employees as of May 15, 1928; (2) total number of Mexicans employed; (3) whether Mexicans and other nationalities, including Americans, were employed in the same occupations; (4) whether the same wage rates were paid Mexicans and others in the same occupations; (5) the occupations at which Mexicans were employed; and (6) the wage rates paid to Mexican workers. The schedules also called for comment regarding the relative desirability of Mexican workers.

It was not intended to get through these schedules a census of the actual number of Mexicans employed in manufacturing establishments. Rather was it the purpose to learn in which industries Mexicans have found employment and to get an inkling of the extent to which Mexicans have become a part of the labor supply in the manufacturing establishments of California.

Replies were received from 830 firms of the total number of 975 schedules sent out. Fifty-seven of the returned schedules could not be tabulated for lack of adequate information. Of the remaining 773 tabulatable returns, 40 schedules were received from canning and preserving of fish, fruit, and vegetable establishments; and 16 were received from railroad companies. The 56 replies from the canning and railroad plants were used in the separate sections on the employment of Mexicans in these establishments appearing in this chapter. The information gathered from the replies of the remaining 695 industrial establishments are presented below.

Table 23 shows that of the total number of 695 industrial establishments, 312, or 45 per cent, employed Mexicans; while 383 establishments, or 55 per cent, did not employ Mexicans. The groups of industries which reported Mexican employees in excess of the percentages for all industries were the following, in order named:

	Group of industries	*Per cent of total firms reporting Mexican employees*
1.	Textiles	57.9
2.	Chemicals, oils and paints	56.7
3.	Wood manufacturers	46.7
4.	Metals, machinery, and conveyances	45.8

[1] These questionnaires were sent out through the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement of the Department of Industrial Relations. The establishments to which the schedules were sent were the same which make regular monthly reports to the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement on the volume of monthly employment and pay roll.

CHART 17

NUMBER MEXICAN EMPLOYEES AND OTHER EMPLOYEES WERE OF TOTAL EMPLOYEES IN THE 695 REPRESENTATIVE CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS FOR WHICH INFORMATION WAS SECURED, BY GROUPS OF INDUSTRIES: MAY, 1928.

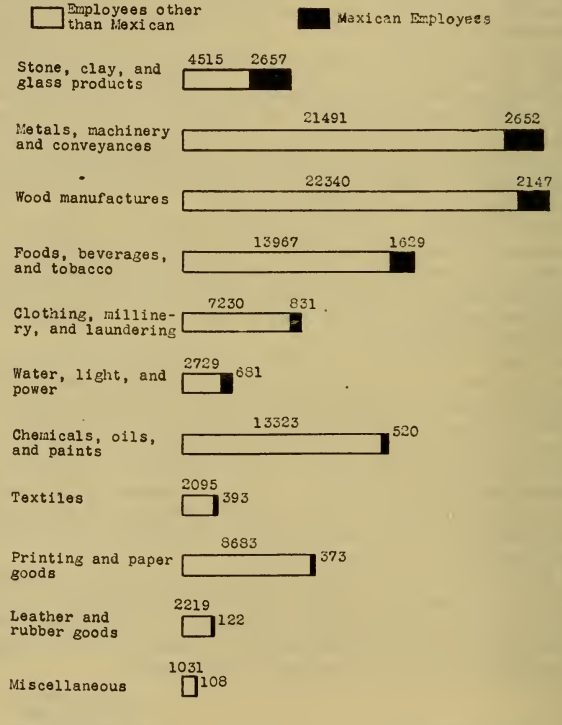


TABLE 23. NUMBER AND PER CENT OF INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN CALIFORNIA FOR WHICH INFORMATION WAS SECURED, WHICH WERE OR WERE NOT EMPLOYING MEXICAN WORKERS AS OF MAY 15, 1928

Groups of industries	Industrial establishments				
	Number employing Mexicans	Number not employing Mexicans	Total reporting	Per cent of total	
				Number employing Mexicans	Number not employing Mexicans
All industries	312	383	695	45.0	55.0
Stone, clay and glass products	38	9	47	80.9	19.1
Metals, machinery and conveyances	76	90	166	45.8	54.2
Wood manufactures	56	64	120	46.7	53.3
Leather and rubber goods	7	11	18	38.9	61.1
Chemicals, oils, paints, etc.	17	13	30	56.7	43.3
Printing and paper goods	19	75	94	20.2	79.8
Textiles	11	8	19	57.9	42.1
Clothing, millinery and laundering	26	35	61	42.6	57.4
Foods, beverages and tobacco	53	70	123	43.1	56.9
Water, light and power	3		3	100.0	
Miscellaneous	6	8	14	42.9	57.1

Table 24 shows the total number of employees, Mexicans and others, and the number of Mexicans employed by the industrial establishments for which information was secured. The percentages which the Mexican workers were of the total workers in these establishments are also shown in this table and in the accompanying chart.

It will be observed that the 695 industrial plants employed a total of 111,736 workers as of May 15, 1928, or the nearest representative pay roll period.[2] The total number of Mexican workers in these establishments was 12,113, or 10.8 per cent, of the total number of 111,736 workers.

The highest ratio of Mexicans to the total number of employees is reported by the stone, clay, and glass products firms, which include cement plants. The 47 reporting firms in this group of industries employed a total of 7172 workers, of whom 2657, or 38.4 per cent, were Mexicans. Besides the water, light, and power plants, the next highest proportion of Mexicans is reported by the textile industry. Thus, the nineteen firms in this industry reported a total of 2488 workers, of whom 393, or 15.8 per cent, were Mexicans. The metals, machinery, and conveyances group of industries employed a total of 24,143 workers. Of this total 2652, or 11.0 per cent, were Mexican workers. The 120 wood manufacturing firms employed 24,487 workers, of whom 2147, or 8.8 per cent, were Mexicans. The clothing, millinery, laundering, and the foods, beverages and tobacco groups of industries reported Mexican employees slightly in excess of 10 per cent of their total employees.

[2] Information was not secured as to number of male and female workers employed in industrial establishments.

CHART 18

PERCENTAGES MEXICAN AND NON-MEXICAN EMPLOYEES IN 312 REPRESENTATIVE CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS, FOR WHICH INFORMATION WAS SECURED, ALL OF WHICH EMPLOYED BOTH MEXICANS AND NON-MEXICANS, BY GROUPS OF INDUSTRIES: MAY 15, 1928.

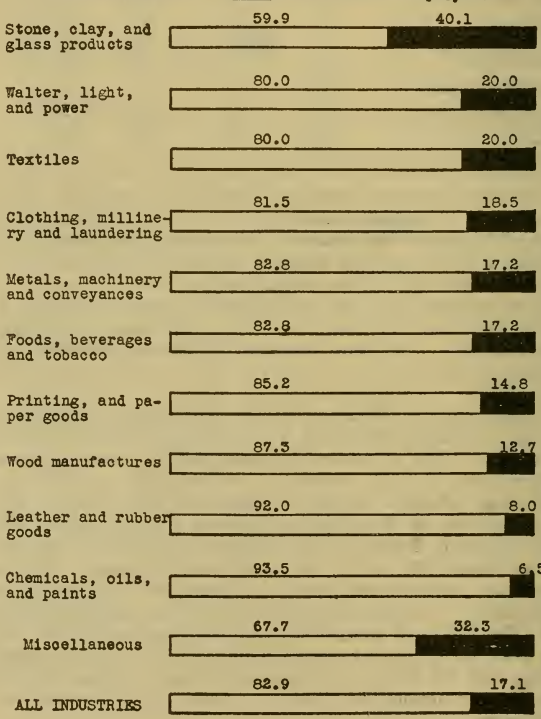


TABLE 24. TOTAL NUMBER AND PER CENT MEXICAN EMPLOYEES WERE OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES (ALL NATIONALITIES) IN THE 695 INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN CALIFORNIA FOR WHICH INFORMATION WAS SECURED, BY GROUPS OF INDUSTRIES

Groups of industries	Firms reporting			Total employees of all reporting firms as of May 15, 1928	Total Mexicans employed as of May 15, 1928	Per cent Mexicans of total employees
	Total	Employing Mexicans				
		Number	Per cent of total			
All industries	695	312	45.0	111,736	12,113	10.8
Stone, clay and glass products	47	38	80.9	7,172	2,657	38.4
Metals, machinery and conveyances	166	76	45.8	24,143	2,652	11.0
Wood manufactures	120	56	46.7	24,487	2,147	8.8
Leather and rubber goods	18	7	38.9	2,341	122	5.2
Chemicals, oils and paints	30	17	56.7	13,843	520	3.8
Printing and paper goods	94	19	20.2	9,056	373	4.1
Textiles	19	11	57.9	2,488	393	15.8
Clothing, millinery and laundering	61	26	42.6	8,061	831	10.3
Foods, beverages and tobacco	123	53	43.1	15,596	1,629	10.4
Water, light and power	3	3	100.0	3,410	681	20.0
Miscellaneous	14	6	42.9	1,139	108	9.5

It was shown in the preceding table that the 695 industrial establishments, for which information was secured, whether employing or not employing Mexicans, had a total of 111,736 workers as of May 15, 1928, and that of this total 12,113, or 10.8 per cent, were Mexican workers, employed in 312 establishments.

TABLE 25. TOTAL NUMBER AND PER CENT THE MEXICAN EMPLOYEES WERE OF THE TOTAL EMPLOYEES EMPLOYED BY THE 312 INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN CALIFORNIA WHICH REPORTED MEXICAN WORKERS, BY GROUPS OF INDUSTRIES

Groups of industries	Number of firms reporting Mexican employees	Total number of employees as of May 5, 1928	Total number of Mexicans as of May 5, 1928	Per cent Mexicans of total employees
All industries	312	70,699	12,113	17.1
Stone, clay and glass products	38	6,621	2,657	40.1
Metals, machinery and conveyances	76	15,445	2,652	17.2
Wood manufactures	56	16,882	2,147	12.7
Leather and rubber goods	7	1,532	122	8.0
Chemicals, oils and paints	17	8,020	520	6.5
Printing and paper goods	19	2,527	373	14.8
Textiles	11	1,961	393	20.0
Clothing, millinery and laundering	26	4,493	831	18.5
Foods, beverages and tobacco	53	9,474	1,629	17.2
Water, light and power	3	3,410	681	20.0
Miscellaneous	6	334	108	32.3

Table 25 and Chart 18 relate only to the 312 plants which reported both Mexican and non-Mexican workers. These establishments employed altogether 70,699 wage earners, of whom 12,113, or 17.1 per cent, were Mexican workers.

Thus, the 38 firms in the stone, clay, and glass industries employed 2657 Mexican workers of a total of 6621 employees; that is, two-fifths of their total wage earners were Mexicans. The 11 textile establishments reported 393, or 20 per cent, Mexicans of their total number of 1961 employees. The 26 clothing, millinery, and laundering establish-

ments employed 831 Mexican workers, or 18.5 per cent of their total number of 4493 employees. The metals, machinery, and conveyances and the foods, beverages, and tobacco groups of industries reported 17.2 per cent Mexican workers of their total number of employees. Of the total number of 16,882 employees in the wood manufacturing industries, 2147, or 12.7 per cent, were Mexicans. The lowest percentages of Mexican workers are shown for the leather and rubber goods industries and for the chemicals, oils, and paints industries. The percentages of Mexicans employed in these groups of industries were, respectively, 8 and 6.5.

In the foregoing tables were presented data showing the employment of Mexicans and non-Mexicans in principal groups of industries. The figures in Table 26 are intended to show the numbers and proportions of Mexicans employed in certain industries which employed most Mexicans. In this table are shown the total numbers of employees of all nationalities, including the Mexicans, the total number of Mexicans, as well as the ratios of Mexicans to total workers employed in the industries included under the general headings of (1) stone, clay, and glass products, (2) metals, machinery, and conveyances, (3) wood manufactures, (4) clothing, millinery, and lumbering, and (5) foods, beverages, and tobacco. While the number of Mexicans employed by all groups of industries was 12,113, these five groups of industries employed 9916 workers of that nationality, or 82 per cent of the total.

An examination of the data embodied in Table 26 reveals that the largest percentages of Mexicans were employed in these industries, in order named:

Industries	*Per cent Mexicans of total employees*
1. Beverages	66.3
2. Brick, tile, pottery	53.8
3. Miscellaneous stone and mineral products	50.7
4. Women's clothing	34.5
5. Lime, cement, plaster	33.7
6. Iron and steel forgings, bolts, nuts, etc.	28.5
7. Other sheet metal products	27.7
8. Slaughtering and meat products	26.3
9. Other food products	18.3
10. Sugar	18.7
11. Tin cans	21.1
12. Brass, bronze and copper products	17.3
13. Structural and ornamental steel	15.6
14. Other iron foundry and machine shop products	15.2
15. Other wood manufactures	15.2
16. Cigars and other tobacco products	14.9
17. Glass	14.1
18. Laundering, cleaning and dyeing	13.6
19. Men's clothing	13.3
20. Sawmills and logging	13.3
21. Confectionery and ice cream	11.6
22. Engines, pumps, boilers and tanks	11.5
23. Planing mills, sash and door factories, etc.	11.4
24. Flour and grist mills	10.3
25. Bread and bakery products	8.4
26. Ice manufactures	4.6
27. Ship and boat building and naval repairing	4.0
28. Millinery	3.6
29. Agricultural implements	3.2
30. Automobiles, including bodies and parts	3.1
31. Dairy products	2.4

TABLE 26. NUMBER AND PER CENT MEXICAN EMPLOYEES WERE OF TOTAL EMPLOYEES IN INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN CALIFORNIA EMPLOYING MEXICAN WORKERS, AS OF MAY 15, 1928, BY PRINCIPAL INDUSTRIES

Principal industries	Number of firms	Firms employing Mexicans and non-Mexicans		
		Employees as of May 15, 1928		
		Total, all nationalities	Total Mexican employees	Per cent Mexicans of total employees
All industries	249	52,915	9,916	18.7
Stone, clay and glass products	38	6,621	2,657	40.1
Miscellaneous stone and mineral products	7	1,140	578	50.7
Lime, cement, plaster	5	1,371	462	33.7
Brick, tile, pottery	19	2,610	1,405	53.8
Glass	7	1,500	212	14.1
Metals, machinery and conveyances	76	15,445	2,652	17.2
Agricultural implements	2	837	27	3.2
Automobiles, including bodies and parts	6	775	24	3.1
Brass, bronze and copper products	4	688	119	17.3
Engines, pumps, boilers and tanks	2	269	31	11.5
Iron, and steel forging bolts, nuts, etc.	6	2,631	750	28.5
Structural and ornamental steel	12	3,806	595	15.6
Ship and boat building and naval repairs	3	1,015	41	4.0
Tin cans	4	1,328	280	21.1
Other iron foundry and machine shop products	24	2,791	424	15.2
Other sheet metal products	13	1,305	361	27.7
Wood manufactures	56	16,882	2,147	12.7
Sawmills and logging	7	6,510	867	13.3
Planing mills, sash and door factories, etc.	29	7,832	895	11.4
Other wood manufactures	20	2,540	385	15.2
Clothing, millinery and laundering	26	4,493	831	18.5
Men's clothing	6	1,184	157	13.3
Women's clothing	7	1,106	382	34.5
Millinery	2	84	3	3.6
Laundering, cleaning and dyeing	11	2,119	289	13.6
Foods, beverages and tobacco	53	9,474	1,629	17.2
Confectionery and ice cream	5	517	60	11.6
Bread and bakery products	11	1,640	138	8.4
Sugar	5	1,821	341	18.7
Slaughtering and meat products	8	2,231	587	26.3
Cigars and other tobacco products	4	887	132	14.9
Beverages	1	264	175	66.3
Dairy products	3	879	21	2.4
Flour and grist mills	4	272	28	10.3
Ice manufactures	3	216	10	4.6
Other food products	9	747	137	18.3

Further analysis of the data relating to the employment of Mexicans in California industries discloses the interesting fact that most of the Mexicans are employed in establishments having large numbers of workers. Thus, reference to Table 27 and Chart 19 will show that 33.1 per cent of all Mexican industrial workers reported were on the pay rolls of 11 establishments employing 200 or more workers. Of the total number of firms which had Mexican employees, 193, or 61.9 per cent, employed only 12.4 per cent of all Mexicans reported. About 53 per cent of all Mexican workers were employed by 92.6 per cent of all firms reporting employees of that nationality in industrial plants having less than 125 employees; while 47 per cent of all Mexican work-

ers were employed by 7.4 per cent of all firms, in factories employing 125 or more workers.

The fact that Mexican workers are employed in the bigger industrial plants is corroborated by the data presented in Table 28. This table shows that of the 111,736 employees in the 695 reporting establishments 70,699, or 63.3 per cent, were employed in places having Mexican workers; while 41,037, or 36.7 per cent, were employed in establishments having no Mexican employees. Of the total number of 7172 workers in the stone, clay, and glass industries, 6621, or 92.3 per cent, were employed in establishments employing Mexicans, and only 551, or 7.7 per cent, were employed by firms having no Mexican employees. Similarly, of the 24,143 workers reported by all firms in the metals, machinery, and conveyances industries, 15,445, or 64 per cent, were employed in factories employing Mexicans; while 8698, or 36 per cent, were employed in factories not employing Mexicans.

In all groups of industries, with one exception, shown in Table 28, the largest proportions of workers were in establishments which employed Mexican workers. The exception is that of the printing and paper goods industry. Of the total number of 9056 employees in this group of industries, 6529, or 72.1 per cent, were employed in places having no Mexican workers; while only 2527, or 27.9 per cent of all employees were employed in places having Mexican workers. Apparently, in the industries comprised in this group, the Mexicans were employed in the smaller establishments.

Table 29 shows the numbers and percentages which the Mexican employees were of the total employees in the principal counties. Thus, it will be observed that, in Los Angeles County, 173 establishments employed 6901 Mexicans, or 56.9 per cent, of the 12,113 Mexican employees reported by all counties. In these establishments the ratio of Mexican workers to the total workers was 20.8 per cent.

The main results of this table are to bring out the facts that the proportion of Mexican employees in Los Angeles County alone was more than one-half of the total number of Mexican factory employees reported, and to corroborate the fact, already referred to, that in the industrial establishments where Mexicans are employed they constitute a substantial proportion of the total employees.

TABLE 27. DISTRIBUTION OF CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS EMPLOYING MEXICANS AND OF MEXICANS EMPLOYED ACCORDING TO THE SIZES OF ESTABLISHMENTS WHICH EMPLOYED MEXICANS, AS OF MAY 15, 1928

Sizes of establishments according to total number of employees of all nationalities	Number of firms	Total number of Mexicans	Per cent of firms	Per cent of Mexicans	Cumulative percentages	
					Firms	Mexicans
Total	312	12,113	100.0	100.0		
200 employees or more	11	4,007	3.5	33.1	3.5	33.1
175 but under 200	4	675	1.3	5.6	4.8	38.7
150 but under 175	3	429	1.0	3.5	5.8	42.2
125 but under 150	5	601	1.6	5.0	7.4	47.2
100 but under 125	10	1,036	3.2	8.6	10.6	55.8
75 but under 100	12	985	3.8	8.1	14.4	63.9
50 but under 75	29	1,536	9.3	12.7	23.7	76.6
25 but under 50	45	1,338	14.4	11.0	38.1	87.6
Under 25 employees	193	1,506	61.9	12.4	100.0	100.0

TABLE 28. TOTAL NUMBER AND PER CENT OF EMPLOYEES ALL NATIONALITIES EMPLOYED BY INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN CALIFORNIA FOR WHOM INFORMATION WAS SECURED, WHICH DID OR DID NOT EMPLOY MEXICANS AS OF MAY 15, 1928, BY GROUPS OF INDUSTRIES

Groups of industries	Total employees	Number in establishments		Per cent of total employees in establishments	
		Employing Mexicans	Not employing Mexicans	Employing Mexicans	Not employing Mexicans
All industries	111,736	70,699	41,037	63.3	36.7
Stone, clay and glass products	7,172	6,621	551	92.3	7.7
Metals, machinery and conveyances	24,143	15,445	8,698	64.0	36.0
Wood manufactures	24,487	16,882	7,605	68.9	31.1
Leather and rubber goods	2,341	1,532	809	65.4	34.6
Chemicals, oils, paints, etc.	13,843	8,020	5,823	57.9	42.1
Printing and paper goods	9,056	2,527	6,529	27.9	72.1
Textiles	2,488	1,961	527	78.8	21.2
Clothing, millinery and laundering	8,061	4,493	3,568	55.7	44.3
Foods, beverages and tobacco	15,596	9,474	6,122	60.7	39.3
Water, light and power	3,410	3,410		100.0	
Miscellaneous	1,139	334	805	29.3	70.7

TABLE 29. NUMBER AND PER CENT MEXICAN EMPLOYEES WERE OF TOTAL EMPLOYEES (ALL NATIONALITIES) IN 312 CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS, AS OF MAY 15, 1928, BY COUNTIES

Counties	Number of firms	Total employees	Mexican employees		Per cent Mexicans of total employees
			Total number	Per cent of total	
All counties	312	70,699	12,113	100.0	17.1
Los Angeles	173	33,101	6,901	56.9	20.8
San Francisco	59	11,082	1,231	10.2	11.1
Contra Costa	14	6,430	1,028	8.5	16.0
Alameda	14	3,261	192	1.6	5.9
Humboldt	7	3,661	180	1.5	4.9
San Diego	7	1,457	202	1.7	13.9
San Joaquin	5	1,012	61	.5	6.0
Fresno	5	101	19	.2	18.8
All others*	28	10,594	2,299	18.9	21.7

* The following counties, from which reports were received for less than three establishments, are included in "All others:" Butte, El Dorado, Inyo, Kern, Lassen, Madera, Mendocino, Merced, Napa, Orange, Placer, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Siskiyou, Solano, Tulare, Tuolumne and Ventura.

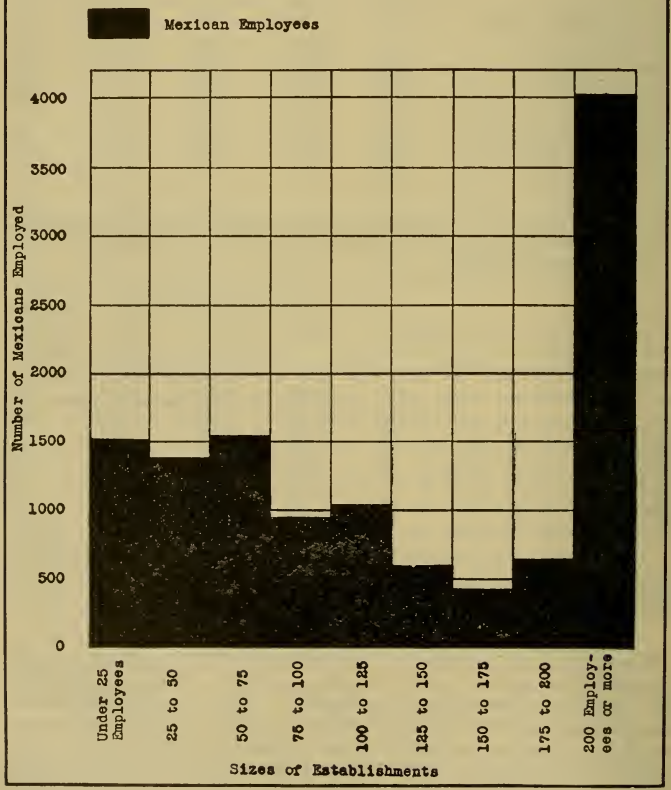
TOTAL MEXICANS IN INDUSTRIES

From the data presented in the foregoing tables, an attempt might be made to estimate roughly the total number of Mexicans employed in California manufacturing industries. Since the figures secured from 695 manufacturing establishments covered 111,736 wage earners, or 42.5 per cent of the 262,936 wage earners in all California manufacturing establishments in 1927, the facts gathered from these establishments regarding the number of Mexicans employed by them might be considered also typical of all the manufacturing establishments in the state.[3] In sending out the questionnaires to manufacturing establishments, no attempt was made to select industries or places of

[3] According to the 1927 federal census of manufactures, the average number of wage earners in California in that year was 262,936.

CHART 19

NUMBER OF MEXICANS EMPLOYED IN CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS, WHICH EMPLOYED MEXICANS AND NON-MEXICANS, ACCORDING TO THE SIZES OF THE ESTABLISHMENTS (TOTAL EMPLOYEES IN THE ESTABLISHMENTS), AS OF MAY 15, 1928.



employment where most Mexicans were likely to be found. Instead, these questionnaires, as already explained, were sent out to a representative number of firms which are regularly reporting statistics of employment and pay roll to the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement.

It was seen (Table 24) that of the 111,736 wage earners in the reporting factories, 12,113, or 10.8 per cent, were Mexicans. Applying the same ratio to the total number of wage earners in manufacturing establishments in the state, it would appear that the total number of Mexicans in California manufacturing establishments is 28,397, or roughly, in the neighborhood of 28,000.

IN FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CANNERIES

The data presented in the foregoing tables did not include the canning of fruit and vegetable industry. The Fact-Finding Committee undertook to get a complete enumeration of the Mexicans employed in this industry. This was accomplished with the aid of the auditors of the Division of Industrial Welfare of the Department of Industrial Relations, who visited all canning plants during the canning season to insure the maintenance of the minimum wage rates established under the California minimum wage law.

As a result of this canvass complete returns were secured from 89 canneries which employed 50,404 workers, males and females, as of August 11, 1928.[4] Of this total number of workers, as will be seen in Table 30, 2700, or 5.4 per cent, were Mexican; and of the total Mexican employees 985, or 36.5 per cent, were males and 1715, or 63.5 per cent, were females.

It is significant to note that while only about 5.4 per cent of the workers in all canneries were Mexican, in some counties this proportion was much higher. In Los Angeles County, for instance, where many Mexicans are concentrated, 258, or 23.5 per cent of the 1098 workers employed in three canneries, were Mexicans. In San Bernardino County the proportion of Mexican cannery workers was 16.3. The next two counties showing the highest ratios of Mexican workers were Sacramento and Alameda. In the Sacramento canneries the ratio of Mexicans was 10.2; while in the Alameda canneries this percentage was 8.1.

The figures in Table 31 and Chart 20 relate only to canneries which reported both Mexican and non-Mexican employees. In this table are included data only for 68, or 76.5 per cent, of the 89 canneries from which reports were received, and data are presented in Table 30. These 68 canneries employed altogether 42,340 workers, as of August 11, 1928, of which 2700, or 6.4 per cent, were Mexicans.

It will be noted that the counties of Santa Clara, Alameda, and Sacramento employed 1656, or 61.2 per cent, of the total Mexican cannery workers reported, and that the next highest number of Mexicans were employed in three canneries located in Los Angeles County.

[4] This date was selected because it was considered a period of maximum employment.

CHART 20

PER CENT MEXICAN EMPLOYEES WERE OF TOTAL EMPLOYEES (ALL NATIONALITIES) IN FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CANNERIES IN CALIFORNIA, WHICH EMPLOYED BOTH MEXICANS AND NON-MEXICANS, AS OF AUGUST 11, 1928

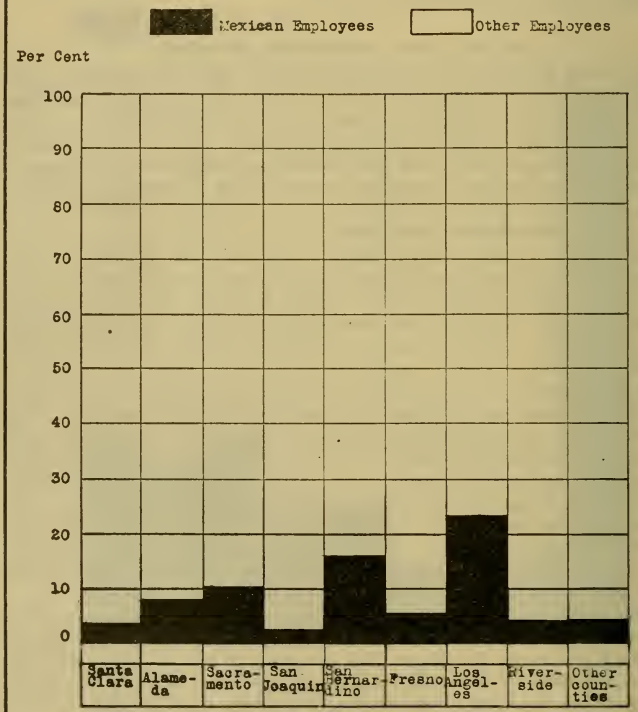


TABLE 30. NUMBER AND PER CENT MEXICAN WORKERS WERE OF THE TOTAL WORKERS IN 89 CALIFORNIA CANNING OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLE ESTABLISHMENTS ON AUGUST 11, 1928, BY PRINCIPAL COUNTIES

Principal counties	Number of canneries reporting	Employees as of August 11, 1928			Mexican employees				
		Total, all nationalities	Total Mexicans	Per cent Mexicans of total	Total number	Males		Females	
						Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total
All counties	89	50,404	2,700	5.4	2,700	985	36.5	1,715	63.5
Santa Clara	24	14,356	382	2.7	382	143	37.4	239	62.6
Alameda	13	8,502	690	8.1	690	231	33.5	459	66.5
Sacramento	5	5,708	584	10.2	584	181	31.0	403	69.0
San Joaquin	5	4,321	94	2.2	94	22	23.4	72	76.6
San Bernardino	4	1,403	228	16.3	228	18	7.9	210	92.1
Fresno	4	2,053	104	5.1	104	38	36.5	66	63.5
Tulare	4	1,577	3	.2	3			3	100.0
Los Angeles	3	1,098	258	23.5	258	29	11.2	229	88.8
Riverside	3	1,021	42	4.1	42	2	4.8	40	95.2
All other counties[1]	24	10,365	315	3.0	315	121	38.4	194	61.6

[1]The following, in which less than three canneries reported, are included in "All other counties": Butte, Contra Costa, Kings, Merced, Monterey, Placer, San Benito, San Mateo, Solano, Stanislaus, Santa Cruz, Sonoma, Sutter and Yuba.

TABLE 31. NUMBER AND PER CENT MEXICAN EMPLOYEES WERE OF THE TOTAL EMPLOYEES IN FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CANNERIES WHICH EMPLOYED BOTH MEXICANS AND NON-MEXICANS, AS OF AUGUST 11, 1928, BY COUNTIES

Counties	Canneries employing Mexicans and others				
	Number of canneries	Employees as of August 11, 1928			
		Total number	Mexican employees		Per cent of total employees
			Total	Per cent of total	
All counties	68	42,340	2,700	100.0	6.4
Santa Clara	17	11,231	382	14.1	3.4
Alameda	13	8,502	690	25.5	8.1
Sacramento	5	5,708	584	21.6	10.2
San Joaquin	4	3,892	94	3.5	2.4
San Bernardino	4	1,403	228	8.4	16.3
Fresno	3	1,923	104	3.9	5.4
Los Angeles	3	1,098	258	9.6	23.5
Riverside	3	1,021	42	1.6	4.1
All other counties	16	7,562	318	11.8	4.2

IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

It is a known fact that many Mexicans are employed as laborers on public works, where the work is performed by contractors or subcontractors, and in the construction of buildings. But, in order to get a more adequate idea of the extent to which Mexicans are so employed, the Fact-Finding Committee sent out 237 questionnaires to leading building and construction firms throughout the state. Complete returns were received from 159 companies, or from 67 per cent of all schedules sent out.

Of these 159 companies, 98, or 61.6 per cent, employed both Mexican and non-Mexican labor. The total number of employees on the pay rolls of these 98 concerns, as of June 15, 1928, or the nearest repre-

sentative pay-roll period, was 12,983, of whom 3390, or 26.1 per cent, were Mexicans. The total number of workers employed by all reporting companies was 20,650. The ratio which the Mexicans were to this total was 16.4.

Since no accurate data are available as to the total number of persons employed in all building and construction work, it is impossible to estimate the number of Mexicans employed in this industry. However, it is significant that during June, 1928, a month during which there is a great deal of agricultural activity in the state, 16.4 per cent of the employees of the reporting firms were Mexicans. It is not improbable that if data could be secured from all building and construction firms active during the year 1928, the results obtained would substantiate the assumption that about 16 out of every 100 persons employed in the construction of highways, dams, roads, bridges, buildings, and in street paving are Mexicans.

Companies operating in the southern part of the state declared Mexicans to be very desirable workers because of climatic conditions. They are reported to be less perturbed by the heat of the sun when entirely exposed to it while at work. It appears to be the concensus of opinion that many Mexicans make good pick and shovel laborers and that they are wanted at these occupations because they can be depended upon to remain at them as long as they are wanted.

Italians, Portuguese, Slavs, other foreigners, and Americans were reported working in the same occupations and at the same rates of wages where the same work was performed. But the preponderant majority of the reporting building and construction firms said that when Mexicans are employed as laborers they usually predominate in that occupation.

ON RAILROADS

The Fact-Finding Committee received reports from 18 interstate, municipal, and interurban railroad companies relative to their employment of Mexican labor. Fourteen of these companies reported 10,858 Mexican workers employed as of May, 1928, in the State of California. Six of the larger railroads employed 10,706, or 99 per cent, of the 10,858 Mexicans on the pay rolls of all reporting companies.

Railroads employ Mexicans primarily as section hands and "extra gang" laborers. The Mexicans are secured for the railroads by companies which furnish commissary and other supplies to the laborers employed by the railroads. These commissary companies recruit the Mexicans either directly or through private employment agencies.

The extent to which railroads use Mexican labor is shown by the testimony of E. E. McInnis, general solicitor of the Santa Fe Railroad, given to the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization of the House of Representatives at its hearings on the question of restricting Mexican immigration. Mr. McInnis testified, in part, as follows:

> Figures furnished by six railroads situated wholly in the west or operating transcontinental lines to the Pacific coast, having in the aggregate 43,546 miles of main track, with great additional mileage of switches, sidings and other tracks, all of which must be maintained for the public service, disclose that from 67 to 68 per cent of their section crews and 90 per cent of their extra gangs are Mexicans. These men do work which absolutely must be done if the railroads of the west and southwest are to continue to function.

The section gangs do the work of constantly keeping in order the tracks and roadbeds. Each crew is definitely assigned to a particular short portion of the track—a particular section—when they are constantly at work in maintenance from day to day. Much of the territory traversed by these and the other lines of the west and southwest is arid, a substantial portion of it is actual desert, and a great deal of it is sparsely settled. The section laborers must live there, for their work is local. Only the Mexican can or will live in many of these districts, and, as the obvious result, if the Mexicans are dispensed with there are no other laborers to take their place.

The work of the extra gangs is not confined to any particular locality. They do the work of improvement and major repair when and where necessity requires it to be done. They live in railroad cars which form a part of work trains, and their place of abode is where these cars are placed. They are to be found where there is steel to be laid, or where a washed-out embankment is to be replaced, or where the track is to be strengthened, or where the grades are being reduced. White men do not seek such employment under any condition; they will not submit to the living conditions which are a necessary incident of the work, and they will not subject themselves to the climatic conditions which those who do this necessary work must meet.

Moreover, the employment offered in this work is not by any means constant, and this is particularly true in the case of extra-gang work. In 1926 the number of men engaged at work in the section gangs of the six roads in question varied from a normal of 31,560 to a peak of 39,905, a variance of 26.4 per cent over normal, while those in the extra gangs varied from a normal of 13,104 to a peak of 22,923, a variance of 75 per cent over normal.

These things—the severity of the climate, the unavoidable hardships incident to living conditions, the nature of the work to be done, and the uncertainty of permanent employment—conspire to make this sort of work unattractive to white men, and the railroads must look to the Mexicans.[5]

According to the same witness, the six railroads situated wholly in the west, namely, the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe, the Colorado and Southern, the Denver and Rio Grande Western, the Southern Pacific, the Union Pacific, and the Western Pacific, employed during the calendar year 1926 from 33,035 to 47,740 Mexican laborers, as shown in the following tabulation:[6]

	Normal			Peak		
	Mexican	Total	Percentage Mexican	Mexican	Total	Percentage Mexican
Section laborers	21,250	31,560	67	27,135	39,905	68
Extra gang laborers	11,785	13,104	90	20,605	22,923	90
Total	33,035	44,664	74	47,740	62,828	76

The data secured from reports of railroad companies regarding their Mexican employees in California, referred to above, are not complete enough to establish the exact number of Mexicans employed in this state, but probably about 50 per cent of the 47,740 Mexicans on the pay rolls of the six railroads are employed in California.

DESIRABILITY OF MEXICAN LABOR

The reasons offered for employing Mexican labor in building and construction and on railroads were already referred to in preceding

[5] Hearings before the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, House of Representatives, Seventieth Congress, First Session, on H. R. 6465, H. R. 7358, H. R. 10955, H. R. 11687, p. 400.

[6] *Ibid.*, page 396.

sections. Typical and illustrative comments of employers in manufacturing establishments and in canneries regarding the advantages and disadvantages of employing Mexicans are next presented.

Of the 312 firms which employed Mexican and non-Mexican labor, 216 commented upon their relative desirability. One hundred and nineteen firms said in effect that the Mexicans were satisfactory laborers and are fitted for the work at which they are employed. The following are a few typical comments made by representatives of these firms signing the questionnaires:

> All Mexicans kept steady are good workers.
>
> Desirable and efficient in our estimation as relating to our type of work.
>
> We have found Mexican labor entirely satisfactory.
>
> We find that they are as efficient as any other nationality in the capacities in which they are employed.
>
> Mexican labor satisfactory when placed in occupations fitted for. They apparently fit well on jobs not requiring any great degree of mentality, and they do not object to dirt.
>
> In certain parts of our plant, particularly the dirtier jobs, Mexicans are the only kind of labor that we have found in the west that will stay with us. For this kind of work we find them very efficient. We pay Mexicans exactly the scale as other nationalities, if they are doing the same work; and it has been our experience that, treated in this manner, they make very loyal and efficient employees. At first we only used them in the common labor manual jobs, but the more intelligent are gradually working up into the better-paid positions with the company. We have a few Mexicans who earn over $150 per month. This, of course, due to overtime work. The majority who have been here six months or longer are earning over $125 per month.

Thirty firms reported Mexican labor to be on the whole unsatisfactory, but said that they could find good labor by proper selecting. One of these firms, employing 18 Mexicans out of a total of 153 employees, describes the Mexicans as "Not very good—we had to pick over groups to obtain desirable employees." Another firm in this category comments: "If carefully selected and properly supervised, they are desirable and efficient." This firm employs 316 Mexicans out of a total of 448 employees. Still another firm said: "Good with us, as we employ only capable class." "We retain in our employ only those who are clean, willing and reliable," is the comment of still another firm.

Forty-two companies reported Mexicans to be less desirable than non-Mexican labor, but they employed them nevertheless, apparently for the reasons indicated below:

> In general laundry work they are more reliable, but not as efficient. We seldom hire them in important positions, such as distributing or heads of departments.
>
> Quality of work is excellent, but in the main they are lazy and slow.
>
> We have found they are lazy as a rule, but are all right with a good foreman.
>
> As an average not as desirable because their production is lower per dollar of wages paid.
>
> A very small percentage are efficient and industrious.

Another group of 15 manufacturing establishments reported that Mexicans are not very good workers, but were the only ones available. "We are unable to secure any other class of labor to do our work efficiently," is the comment of one of these firms, engaged in the manufacture of steel castings and forgings and employing 20 Mexicans out of a total of 68 employees. The Mexicans are employed by this firm

as grinders and foundry helpers at 50 cents per hour. Another firm producing wooden boxes reports that Mexican helpers are the only ones obtainable. This company had 119 employees, of whom 45 were Mexicans, at daily wage rates from $2.50 to $4. A company manufacturing magnesite employed 25 Mexicans and 23 workers of other nationalities. Said the mine superintendent of this company: "We do not consider Mexican labor as efficient as non-Mexican, but are unable to secure non-Mexican miners in this district." This company pays its workers from $3.50 to $3.75 per day.

Another company manufacturing paints, varnishes, and lead products reports that Mexicans are on the average not as efficient as workers of other nationalities, but that at times Mexican labor is the only kind of labor available. A glass manufacturing concern which employed over 100 Mexicans said: "Mexican labor is not as reliable as white labor, but they will work in the heat where it is hard to keep other labor." The same claim is made by a cement factory. The chief clerk of this company asserts: "This class of labor is not good, but most of the time can get nothing else." A sugar refining factory states: "Without Mexican labor the sugar beet industry would be demoralized."

A millwork and box shook factory, paying from 35 to 40 cents per hour, claims that Mexican workers would not be used "if Americans would work, but for some reason an American will not work steady in that line."

Nine firms employing only 107 Mexicans declared that workers of that nationality were not desirable. A garment factory employing 20 Mexicans out of 96 employees writes: "In most cases they are unreliable; always late and absent for the least cause—that is why many factories refuse to hire Mexicans." A lumber factory in this group reports: "Only a few hired and find them shiftless." A company manufacturing barrels, kegs, kits and pails, employing only 8 Mexicans and 55 other employees, says: "On the whole the Mexican labor is very unsatisfactory and not very efficient."

So much for opinions as to good and bad qualities of Mexican labor in industrial establishments other than canneries. During the survey of the canning industry an attempt was made to get opinions of superintendents and foremen of canneries as to the relative desirability of Mexican workers. Sixty-eight expressions of opinions were secured from as many superintendents or foremen of canneries. Nineteen of these, all of whom employed Mexicans, considered them desirable workers; while 48 superintendents and foremen said that the Mexicans were not desirable workers in canneries. Of these 48, 39 employed and 9 did not employ Mexicans at the time of the investigation.

The opinions expressed are very contradictory. Typical examples of these opinions are cited below:

Mexicans Are Desirable	Mexicans Are Not Desirable
Not quarrelsome or "agitating." Slow to learn, but more dependable. Mexican women work harder than Americans because more necessitous. Their work is also cleaner.	Lazy, ignorant, not dependable—not wanted.
They are slow to learn, but become efficient and thorough.	If the Mexicans realize you are dependent upon them, they nearly strike for more money, and when you need them the worst, they are not on the job.

Mexicans Are Desirable

Mexican women are good workers. Better in some ways than white women. They follow instructions better, because they are more afraid of being "fired."

Those who have been employed here have been good workers—quiet. They are steady workers, the records showing that they have remained the entire season.

Mexican women are desirable and more efficient than white women. They are accustomed to working in fruit, and most of them have always wandered from place to place working in dry yards and canneries. They are not desired in the packing department. White women are apt to look neater and to be better dressed, giving the packing department a better appearance.

At beginning of season, preference in employment was given to white women. Some of them were so slow and otherwise unsatisfactory that they were let off and replaced by Mexican women who were superior workers. Mexican women are clean and neat workers. However, manager never desired to employ them as packers. Plant wishes to have record of having white women do final handling of fruit.

Mexicans Are Not Desirable

I have no use for them; they don't get what you want them to do.

Willing workers, but lacking in capacity.

As a rule not efficient; therefore not desirable. There are, of course, exceptions.

Slow, undependable, independent "floaters." As soon as they have a few dollars they quit. Too many Mexicans or too many of any foreign nationality cause trouble with other employees. When one leaves, they often all go.

Not as efficient as general cannery labor. Harder to teach.

Not desirable because they will not work more than a week. There are a few exceptions to this statement.

The preceding comments and opinions relative to the desirability and efficiency of Mexican labor are perhaps of small consequence in determining the causes responsible for the employment of Mexican workers in various manufacturing industries.

If they prove anything it is that Mexicans, like others, may be good and bad workers, may and may not be fit for certain occupations. Some of them are steady and reliable; others are floaters and undependable.

The penetration of Mexicans into California industries was probably begun, as indicated by a number of establishments, during the World War when there was a shortage of other labor. The Mexican immigrants in California are now a substantial factor in the labor supply of the state. As the newest immigrant group in California, the Mexicans have gained a strong position in California industries, undoubtedly supplanting other immigrant races and native Americans.

There is every reason to believe that the numbers of Mexicans in California industries will increase with the increased supply of Mexican labor made possible by the present federal immigration laws.

SUMMARY

We may summarize the statistical information presented in this chapter as follows:

1. Out of every hundred wage earners in California manufacturing establishments, about eleven are Mexicans (Table 24).

2. In factories where Mexican and non-Mexican workers are employed, the former constituted 17 per cent of the total employees (Table 25).

3. In a number of industries, the percentages which the Mexican workers were of the total workers ranged from 2.4 to 66.3 (Table 26).

4. Mexican workers are employed in largest numbers in industrial establishments having 200 or more employees on their pay rolls. Substantial proportions of Mexicans are also employed in establishments having less than 75 employees on their pay rolls (Table 27).

5. More than one-half of all Mexicans employed in industries are in plants located in Los Angeles County, and only one-tenth are employed in plants located in San Francisco County (Table 29).

6. There are probably in the neighborhood of 28,000 Mexicans employed in California manufacturing industries.

7. In fruit and vegetable canneries, a seasonal industry, the total number of Mexican workers found was 2700, or 5.4 per cent, of the 50,404 employees in this industry at the time of the enumeration. In Los Angeles County, this proportion is 23.5; in San Bernardino County, 16.3; and in Sacramento County, 10.2. Of the 2700 Mexican cannery workers, 985, or 36.5 per cent, were males; and 1715, or 63.5 per cent, were females (Table 30).

8. Judging by the returns from 159 building and construction companies, which employed 20,650 workers as of June 15, 1928, 16.4 per cent of the employees in all classes of construction are Mexicans. The building and construction firms which reported both Mexican and non-Mexican employees had 12,983 employees of all nationalities, of whom 3390, or 26.1 per cent were Mexicans.

9. Six large interstate and interurban railroads had 10,706 Mexican laborers on their pay rolls in May, 1928; but the number of Mexican laborers employed by railroads in California is undoubtedly much in excess of this number.

10. Mexican immigrants have gained a strong foothold in California industries, undoubtedly supplanting other immigrant races and native Americans.

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CHAPTER V

OCCUPATIONS AND WAGE RATES

IN MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS

In the preceding chapter were presented statistics relating to the numbers and proportions of Mexicans in nonagricultural occupations. In this chapter data are presented showing the occupations of Mexican workers and wage rates paid them.

The statistics regarding occupations and wage rates are secured from the questionnaires referred to in the preceding chapter and from special monthly reports of private employment agencies furnishing Mexican labor.

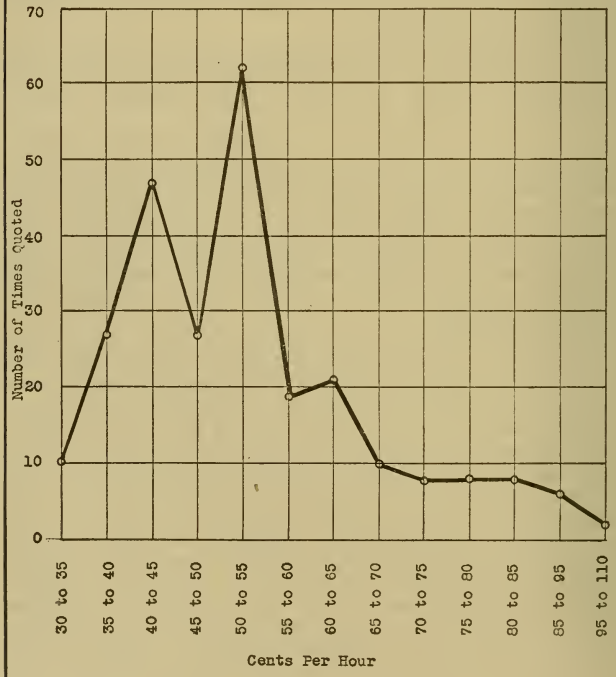
All but two of the 312 industrial establishments which employed Mexicans reported that Mexicans and non-Mexicans were employed in the same occupations, and only eight of these establishments reported lower wage rates for Mexicans employed in the same occupations with other persons of other nationalities. The questionnaires did not ask employers to specify the number of Mexicans employed in each occupation. Instead, they were asked to enumerate the occupations at which the Mexicans were employed and to show the lowest and highest rates paid in each occupation.

These data are included in Tables 32 and 33. The exact occupational designations and the lowest and highest hourly or daily wage rates reported are listed in Table 33. In scrutinizing these figures, it is to be borne in mind that the lowest and highest wage rates for any occupation shown were not necessarily paid by the same employer and that although the occupational designations are the same in several industries, the actual work performed under these designations might be different. For instance, the daily rates for helpers reported in the stone, clay, and glass products industries are from $3.50 to $4.25; in the metals, machinery and conveyances industries, the daily rates for helpers reported are from $4 to $4.50. But the helpers in these groups of industries are performing dissimilar work. Furthermore, while in each group of industries laborers are listed separately as a distinct occupation, some of the other occupations listed under the same groups of industries might have been properly designated as laborers. Thus, in the stone, clay, and glass industries, section hands, yardmen, sorters, and others, though listed as distinct occupations, might have been all classified as laborers. And in all probability, some of the reporting firms in this group of industries actually reported such occupations as laborers.

Since, as already stated, the number of Mexican workers receiving specified wage rates is not available, it is impossible to present data on

CHART 21

NUMBER OF TIMES SPECIFIED HOURLY WAGE RATES WERE QUOTED BY EMPLOYERS AS BEING PAID TO MEXICAN WORKERS EMPLOYED IN CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS, AS OF MAY 15, 1928.



average wage rates in the different occupations at which they are employed.[1] Table 32, and Charts 21, 22, and 23, however, show how many times various wage rates were reported by industrial establishments which employed Mexicans. Thus, there were reported 255 hourly wage rates, 250 daily wage rates, and 136 weekly wage rates.[2] Of the 255 hourly wage rates shown 111, or 43.6 per cent, were less than 50 cents; 62, or 24.3 per cent, were from 50 to 55 cents;[3] and 82, or 32.1 per cent, were 55 or more cents per hour.

Of the 250 daily wage rates quoted by employers, 82, or 32.8 per cent, were $4 to $4.50; 34, or 13.6 per cent, were from $4.50 to $5; 30, or 12 per cent, were $5 to $5.50; 149, or 59.6 per cent, were under $4.50; and 101, or 40.4 per cent were $4.50 or over.

Of the 136 weekly wage rates quoted, 21, or 15 per cent, paid $16 to $18; 19, or 14 per cent, paid from $18 to $20; and 19, or 14 per cent, paid from $24 to $26; 17, or 12.5 per cent, paid from $30 to $32; 67, or 49.3 per cent, paid under $24; 99, or 72.8 per cent, paid under $30; and 37, or 27.2 per cent, paid $30 or more per week.

It should be remembered that these hourly, daily, and weekly wage rates quoted relate to the 12,113 Mexicans employed in the 312 manufacturing establishments referred to in Table 24 of the preceding chapter.

The data included in Table 33 are indicative of the kind of work performed by Mexicans and of the wage rates paid them in various industries.

The detailed data in this table relating to hourly and daily wage rates are briefly summarized by groups of industries in the following tabulations:

	Rates reported			
	Hourly		*Daily*	
Groups of industries	*Lowest*	*Highest*	*Lowest*	*Highest*
1. Stone, clay and glass products	$0.40	$0.65	$2.666	$6.50
2. Metals, machinery, and conveyances	.36	.875	2.00	8.00
3. Wood manufactures	.325	.875	2.50	10.00
4. Leather and rubber goods	.40	.65	3.50	4.50
5. Chemicals, oils, paints, etc.	.35	.88	3.50	9.00
6. Printing and paper goods	.35	.50	2.85	7.50
7. Textiles	.30	.525	2.66	5.00
8. Clothing, millinery, and laundering	--	--	2.50	6.00
9. Foods, beverages, and tobacco	.30	.80	2.66	7.00
10. Water, light and power	--	--	3.00	4.50
11. Miscellaneous	.40	.875	2.83	5.00

[1] Average wage rates were computed from data secured from private employment agencies. See tables 34–39.

[2] Nine establishments reported monthly wage rates ranging from $110 to $200.

[3] Of 62 firms which reported hourly wage rates from fifty to fifty-five cents, 57 reported fifty cents as the hourly rate paid Mexican workers.

CHART 22

NUMBER OF TIMES SPECIFIED DAILY WAGE RATES WERE QUOTED BY EMPLOYERS AS BEING PAID TO MEXICAN WORKERS EMPLOYED IN CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS, AS OF MAY 15, 1928.

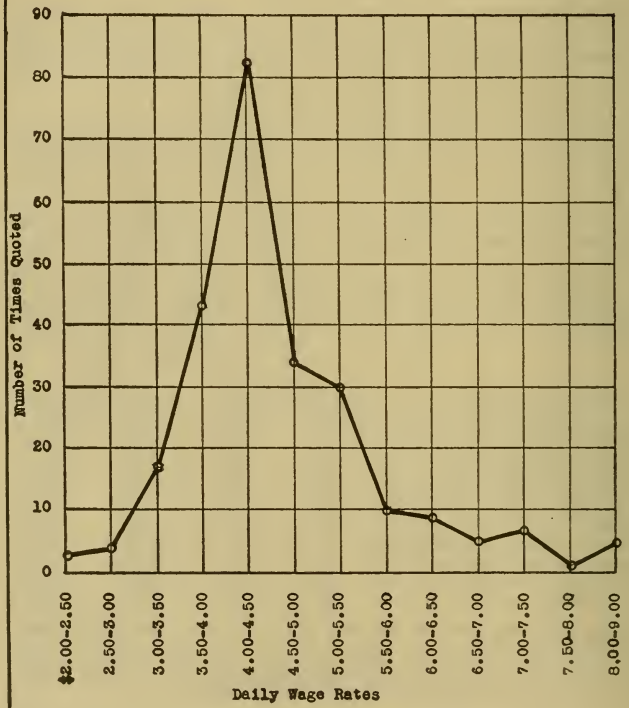


TABLE 32. NUMBER AND PER CENT OF TIMES SPECIFIED HOURLY AND WEEKLY WAGE RATES WERE REPORTED PAID TO MEXICAN WORKERS EMPLOYED IN CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS, AS OF MAY 15, 1928

(NOTE.—This table should be read as follows: 255 industrial establishments reported hourly wage rates. Of this total, 10 reported hourly wage rates ranging from 30c to 35c, etc.)

Wage rates	Number of times reported	Per cent of total	Cumulative percentages
Hourly wage rates			
Total	255	100.0	
$0.30 to $0.35	10	3.9	3.9
.35 to .40	27	10.6	14.5
.40 to .45	47	18.5	33.0
.45 to .50	27	10.6	43.6
.50 to .55	62	24.3	67.9
.55 to .60	19	7.5	75.4
.60 to .65	21	8.2	83.6
.65 to .70	10	3.9	87.5
.70 to .75	8	3.1	90.6
.75 to .80	8	3.1	93.7
.80 to .85	8	3.1	96.8
.85 to .95	6	2.4	99.2
.95 to 1.10	2	.8	100.0
Daily wage rates			
Total	250	100.0	
$2.00 to $2.50	3	1.2	1.2
2.50 to 3.00	4	1.6	2.8
3.00 to 3.50	17	6.8	9.6
3.50 to 4.00	43	17.2	26.8
4.00 to 4.50	82	32.8	59.6
4.50 to 5.00	34	13.6	73.2
5.00 to 5.50	30	12.0	85.2
5.50 to 6.00	10	4.0	89.2
6.00 to 6.50	9	3.6	92.8
6.50 to 7.00	5	2.0	94.8
7.00 to 7.50	7	2.8	97.6
7.50 to 8.00	1	.4	98.0
8.00 to 9.00	5	2.0	100.0
Weekly wage rates			
Total	136	100.0	
Under $16.00	3	2.2	2.2
$16.00 to $18.00	21	15.4	17.6
18.00 to 20.00	19	14.0	31.6
20.00 to 22.00	16	11.8	43.4
22.00 to 24.00	8	5.9	49.3
24.00 to 26.00	19	14.0	63.3
26.00 to 28.00	9	6.6	69.9
28.00 to 30.00	4	2.9	72.8
30.00 to 32.00	17	12.5	85.3
32.00 to 34.00	4	2.9	88.2
34.00 to 36.00	6	4.4	92.6
Over 36.00	10	7.4	100.0

CHART 23

NUMBER OF TIMES SPECIFIED WEEKLY WAGE RATES WERE QUOTED BY EMPLOYERS AS BEING PAID TO MEXICAN WORKERS EMPLOYED IN CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENTS, AS OF MAY 15, 1928.

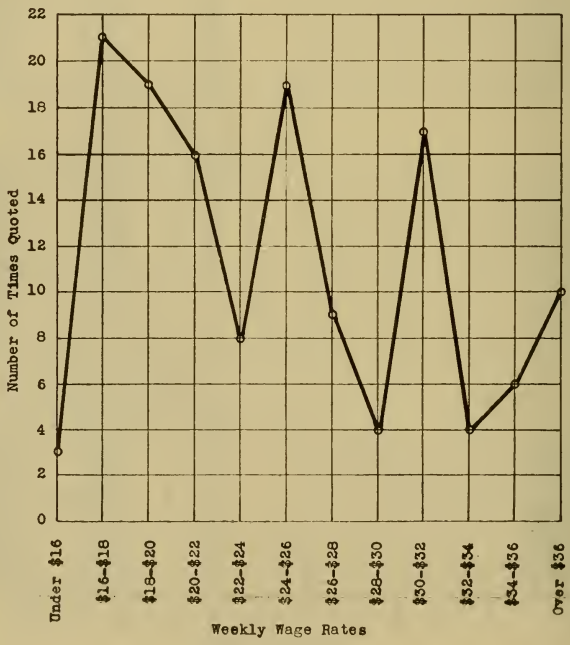


TABLE 33. LOWEST AND HIGHEST HOURLY AND DAILY WAGE RATES PAID MEXICAN WORKERS IN VARIOUS OCCUPATIONS IN CALIFORNIA MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, AS OF MAY 15, 1928, BY GROUPS OF INDUSTRIES

Occupations	Wage rates reported			
	Hourly		Daily	
	Lowest	Highest	Lowest	Highest
	Stone, clay and glass products			
Batch mixers				$4.50
Brick manufacturers		$0.625	$3.50	4.40
Burners				4.25
Cartmen				3.50
Clay grinders				4.05
Clay mixers		.50		
Drawers			3.50	4.00
Drillers				3.68
Glaziers			3.50	6.50
Helpers	$0.55	.60	3.50	4.25
Laborers	.40	.65	3.00	5.50
Machine helpers			4.75	5.00
Millmen			3.36	4.80
Miners			3.50	4.32
Packers		.50	2.666	3.33
Paint mixers				4.50
Quarrymen				5.00
Sackmen				4.30
Section hands				4.50
Setting brick			3.00	5.50
Shovelers				3.00
Sorters				4.20
Tankmen				5.00
Tile manufacturers			3.75	4.75
Truck drivers		.50		
Yardmen				4.00
	Metals, machinery and conveyances			
Assemblers	.40	.65		
Blacksmiths		.70		
Boiler makers	.45	.50		
Can pilers	.40	.45		
Car washers		.55		
Core makers	.46	.875	2.00	4.00
Cranemen		.65		
Cupola makers	.60	.68		4.50
Cut-off sawyers		.65		
Erectors				6.00
Fitters				5.00
Forcmen				7.25
Foundry machine moulders	.45	.85	4.00	8.00
Galvanizers		.40		
Grinders		.50		
Helpers	.36	.60	4.00	4.50
Hook tenders		.68		
Laborers	.40	.60	3.00	4.07
Loaders		.39		
Machinists	.50	.85		
Machine helpers	.55	.675		5.50
Machine operators	.45	.80		4.63
Mechanics	.70	.85		6.80
Painters	.80	.95		
Pipe makers	.45	.75		
Polishers	.70	.75		
Press operators	.40	.75	3.50	4.00
Riveters	.50	.60		
Scalers		.50		
Sheet metal machine workers		.50	6.00	7.50
Slushers			4.25	5.50
Tank cleaners		.60		4.00
Truckmen		.42		
Welders				7.00
Wrappers		.58		

TABLE 33. LOWEST AND HIGHEST HOURLY AND DAILY WAGE RATES PAID MEXICAN WORKERS IN VARIOUS OCCUPATIONS IN CALIFORNIA MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, AS OF MAY 15, 1928, BY GROUPS OF INDUSTRIES—Continued

Occupations	Wage rates reported			
	Hourly		Daily	
	Lowest	Highest	Lowest	Highest
Wood manufactures				
Basket makers				$3.50
Cabinet makers				4.75
Checkers		$0.50		
Cut-off sawmen				6.00
Fallers		.62		
Finishers	$0.40	.80	$3.33	6.00
Helpers	.42	.50	2.50	4.00
Laborers	.35	.50	3.15	6.50
Limbers		.54		
Loaders and unloaders	.45	.58		4.50
Lumber handlers	.325	.70	4.00	5.20
Lumber pilers			4.00	4.50
Machinists		.875	2.50	4.00
Machine coopers				6.50
Off-bearers		.475		
Painters		.38		4.00
Press operators		.50		
Sanders		.38	3.30	5.00
Sawyers				6.00
Section men	.38	.40		
Setters			3.85	3.95
Sewers			3.33	5.00
Sorters				4.00
Stickermen				7.00
Swampers		.50		
Tailing edgers		.40		
Truck drivers		.50		5.00
Upholsterers			3.33	10.00
Leather and rubber goods				
Helpers	.45	.65		
Laborers	.40	.53	3.50	4.50
Rubber mixers		.65		
Truckers		.50		
Chemicals, oils and paints				
Cake-makers and trimmers				4.70
Chemical operators			3.50	3.75
Factory hands				4.33
Helpers		.40		5.50
Janitors	.35			
Joint turners				9.00
Laborers	.40	.53	3.50	4.50
Mixers		.50		
Mechanics		.88		
Packers	.50	.57		
Painters				8.00
Roustabouts				5.00
Stock clerks		.60		
Soap makers	.45	.55		
Tankmen				5.00
Teamsters	.35	.55		4.50

TABLE 33. LOWEST AND HIGHEST HOURLY AND DAILY WAGE RATES PAID MEXICAN WORKERS IN VARIOUS OCCUPATIONS IN CALIFORNIA MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, AS OF MAY 15, 1928, BY GROUPS OF INDUSTRIES—Continued

Occupations	Wage rates reported			
	Hourly		Daily	
	Lowest	Highest	Lowest	Highest
	Printing and paper goods			
Bindery girls			$3.00	$3.66
Bookbinders				7.00
Helpers			2.85	6.00
Labelers				4.50
Laborers	$0.35	$0.50	3.75	4.25
Machine operators			2.85	6.00
Photo department				7.50
Press feeders			4.50	7.50
Spinners				3.33
Straw boss		.50		
Sorters and cutters			3.12	4.00
Truckers			4.00	4.25
Workers in job press department				7.50
Wrappers				4.64
	Textiles			
Carding and filling			2.66	5.00
Finishers			2.66	4.66
Knitters			3.50	3.66
Laborers	.30	.525		
Mechanics				4.78
Millwork		.51		4.08
Operators			2.83	4.66
Pickers			2.66	5.00
Pressers				2.83
Sewing and tufting			2.66	5.00
Trimmers			3.60	4.33
	Clothing, millinery and laundering			
Blackers				5.50
Collar makers			2.50	3.33
Counters			3.00	4.00
Cutters				3.66
Drapers				4.18
Folders			2.66	3.33
Hand sewers			2.66	5.00
Ironers			2.66	5.00
Mangling girls			2.66	3.50
Markers			2.66	2.83
Operators			2.66	6.00
Press finishers			2.66	5.80
Sewing machine operators			2.83	4.08
Shaking out			2.66	4.00
Washers (female)				3.50
Washmen			3.00	5.83

TABLE 33. LOWEST AND HIGHEST HOURLY AND DAILY WAGE RATES PAID MEXICAN WORKERS IN VARIOUS OCCUPATIONS IN CALIFORNIA MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, AS OF MAY 15, 1928, BY GROUPS OF INDUSTRIES—Continued

Occupations	Wage rates reported			
	Hourly		Daily	
	Lowest	Highest	Lowest	Highest
	Foods, beverages and tobacco (exclusive of canning)			
Bakers			$3.66	$6.33
Bean pickers				2.83
Bench men				5.50
Boning ham				5.60
Butchers	$0.50	$0.80		
Car washers				4.58
Centrifugal operators			4.68	4.96
Cigar makers			3.16	5.00
Fillers				4.75
Foremen	.44	.625		
Helpers			2.66	7.00
Ice pullers			3.50	5.40
Janitors	.40	.70		
Labelers			2.75	3.20
Laborers	.336	.70	3.15	5.00
Linking sausages				3.00
Machine operators			3.60	4.00
Mayonnaise mixers				4.50
Mechanics' assistants		.60		
Oven men			4.00	5.80
Packers	.30	.70	2.75	5.00
Sack sewers	.40	.70	4.50	5.00
Shippers			3.00	3.33
Shovelers		.45		
Sorters			2.75	3.00
Truckers		.425	3.00	7.00
Wrappers			2.66	5.00
	Water, light and power			
Caulkers				4.25
Helpers			3.75	4.50
Laborers			3.00	4.00
Pipe wrappers				4.50
	Miscellaneous industries			
Foremen		.875		
Iron workers				3.16
Laborers		.435	3.50	4.00
Miners			3.50	3.75
Pressmen			4.50	5.00
Shade makers				3.00
Shovelers		.40		
Sorters				2.83
Teamsters		.50		
Unloading		.40		

IN FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CANNERIES

As already pointed out in the preceding chapter, Mexican women are employed in canneries mostly in cutting departments; occasionally in canning departments; but they are rarely employed as packers. Mexican male workers are employed in various manual jobs, such as trucking, loading and unloading.

Minimum wage rates paid in fruit and vegetable canneries to women and minors are regulated by the Division of Industrial Welfare of the Department of Industrial Relations; and there is, of course, no distinction made between women and minors of different national-

ities. No attempt was made by the Fact-Finding Committee to ascertain the earnings of Mexicans in canneries.

IN BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

Practically all building and construction firms, referred to in the preceding chapter, reported that Mexicans were employed chiefly as common laborers, at pick and shovel work, or at trench digging and cesspool work. Several companies indicated that they employed Mexicans as teamsters and graders. Mexicans are also selected for cement and concrete work at which occupation they are considered well adapted.

The hourly wage rates paid Mexican laborers in building and construction vary from forty to fifty cents, but the prevailing hourly rate is fifty cents. The daily wage rates vary from $3.50 to $5, but the rate most commonly paid is $4.

The hourly wage rates for teamsters and muckers is fifty cents, while the reported daily wage rates for these occupations of Mexicans vary from $3.75 to $5.50 per day; the rate most frequently paid is $4.

Mexican cement finishers are reported as receiving from $1 per hour to $11 per day, but $8 for an eight hour day appears to be the prevailing rate.

Hourly rates for concrete laborers are from 50 to 62½ cents; daily rates from $4 to $6.95.

The hourly wage rates quoted for asphalt packers were 50 or 62½ cents per hour. Daily wage rates for these occupations of Mexicans were reported from $6 to $7.50.

These hourly and daily wage rates were paid by the building and construction firms referred to in the chapter on Mexicans in non-agricultural occupations, which reported Mexican laborers on their pay rolls. The wage rates paid to building laborers hired through employment agencies is shown in a subsequent section of this chapter.

ON RAILROADS

While most Mexicans employed by railroads are "section hands" or "extra gang" laborers, Mexicans are also employed by the carriers as laborers in mechanical and motive power departments, and in other capacities.

Several railroads reported the employment of Mexicans as machinists and electricians at 76 cents per hour, boilermakers at 71 cents, car repairers at 64 cents, boilermakers' helpers at 56 cents, and boiler-washers at 60 cents.

The hourly wage rates paid track laborers vary between 33¼ cents and 38 cents. One railroad pays track laborers from 33¼ to 37 cents per hour; another, from $2.96 to $3.04 per day, or from 37 to 38 cents per hour. An interurban railroad company reports the hourly wage rate for Mexican track laborers to be from 30 to 32½ cents. Another interurban railroad pays track laborers $2.43 per day; still another such railroad pays track laborers 45 cents per hour.

Section and extra gang laborers are usually housed in box cars or in houses and shacks furnished by railroads rent free. Although, as we have just seen, the rates of pay vary with different companies, the average hourly wage paid is 38 cents, and the average daily rate is

$3.06. This is shown by the following tabulation taken from records of private employment agencies which furnished 5682 railroad laborers during 1928.

Occupations	Wage rates*			
	Hourly		Daily	
	Average	Number of Mexicans	Average	Number of Mexicans
Extra gang	$0.38	992	$3.07	222
Section labor	.38	1,123	3.05	957
Track labor	.38	2,198	3.12	169
Foremen	.55	4		
Total	.38	4,317	3.06	1,348

* In addition to these 5665 Mexican workers, seventeen more Mexicans were furnished to railroads by the same agencies on a contract basis.

WAGE RATES IN VARIOUS OCCUPATIONS

The Fact-Finding Committee secured reports from 23 private employment agencies regarding the numbers of Mexicans which they sent out to work during the calendar year 1928 and the wage rates paid in the various occupations.

These data were furnished by 9 agencies in Los Angeles, 11 in Sacramento, and 3 in Stockton. With but a few minor exceptions, these include all private employment agencies which handle Mexican labor.

Information was secured for 14,343 Mexicans sent to work in various occupations, as follows:

Occupations	Number of Mexicans sent to work	Per cent of total
Total	14,343	100.0
Railroad laborers	5,682	39.6
Laborers (not elsewhere specified)	3,821	26.6
Agricultural laborers	3,491	24.4
Building and construction laborers	721	5.0
Hotel and restaurant	410	2.9
Industries	134	.9
Homes and apartments	75	.5
Mercantile establishments	9	.1

The exact occupational designations at which these Mexicans were sent out to work are shown in subsequent tables. The preceding tabulation shows that two-fifths of the labor handled by private employment agencies is railroad labor, recruited by the agencies for the commissary companies which supply Mexican labor to railroads and to which reference was already made in the preceding chapter. The remaining three-fifths, as will be seen, are also either unskilled or semi-skilled workers.

AVERAGE WAGE RATES

The average hourly, daily, weekly, and monthly wage rates, with and without board, of the 14,343 Mexicans to whom the private employment agencies sold jobs are shown in the following tabulations:

Wage rates without board:	*Average*	*Number of Mexicans receiving*
Hourly	$0.43	3,310
Daily	3.51	2,937
Weekly	16.60	41
Monthly	67.86	7
Pieceworkers	----	1,546
Wage rates with board:		
Hourly	$0.38	5
Daily	2.61	341
Weekly	14.99	301
Monthly	47.75	137
Pieceworkers	----	32
Track laborers:		
Hourly	$0.38	4,313
Daily	3.06	1,348
Contracts	----	17
Total		14,343

It will be noted in the above tabulation that the average hourly wage rate, without board, is 43 cents; with board, 38 cents, a difference of 5 cents. The average daily wage rate, without board, is $3.51; with board, $2.61, a difference of 90 cents. The difference between the average weekly wage rates, with and without board, is only $1.61. The explanation for this small difference is that the weekly jobs which offer board are laregly hotel and restaurant jobs, and are quite different from the jobs which do not include board.

WAGE RATES WITHOUT BOARD

Table 34 and Charts 24 and 25 show the hourly and daily wage rates, without board, of 6243 Mexicans to whom private employment agencies furnished jobs.

It will be observed that of the 3306 Mexicans who filled jobs at hourly wage rates, 2769, or 83.8 per cent, received wage rates from 40 to 45 cents and 98.4 per cent of these Mexicans received less than 45 cents per hour.

Of the 2937 Mexicans who were sent to work at daily wage rates, 1110, or 37.8 per cent, received from $3 to $3.50; whereas, 1567, or 53.4 per cent, received from $3.50 to $4. Of the 2937 sent to work at daily wage rates, 2859, or 97.3 per cent, received less than $4 per day.

CHART 24

HOURLY WAGE RATES OF 3,306 MEXICAN WORKERS WHO SECURED JOBS THROUGH PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES IN CALIFORNIA DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1926.

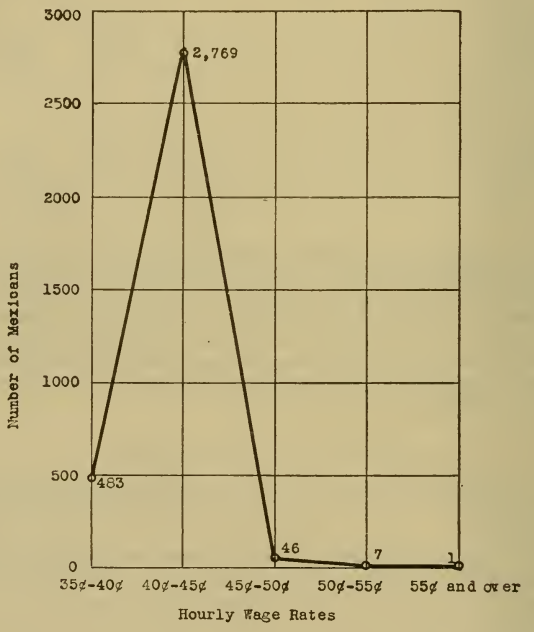


TABLE 34. HOURLY AND DAILY WAGE RATES, WITHOUT BOARD, OF 6243 MEXICANS TO WHOM PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES IN CALIFORNIA FURNISHED JOBS DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1928*

Wage rates	Number of Mexicans	Per cent of total	Cumulative percentages
	Hourly wage rates		
Total	3,306	100.0	
$0.35 to $0.40	483	14.6	14.6
.40 to .45	2,769	83.8	98.4
.45 to .50	46	1.4	99.8
.50 to .55	7	.2	100.0
.55 and over	1	(A)	100.0
	Daily wage rates		
Total	2,937	100.0	
$1.50 to $2.00	10	.3	.3
2.00 to 2.50	71	2.4	2.7
2.50 to 3.00	101	3.4	6.1
3.00 to 3.50	1,110	37.8	43.9
3.50 to 4.00	1,567	53.4	97.3
4.00 to 4.50	22	.7	98.0
4.50 to 5.00	51	1.8	99.8
5.00 and over	5	.2	100.0

*This table does not include forty-one Mexicans, whose average weekly wage rate, without board was $16.60, and does not include seven more Mexicans whose average monthly wage rate was $67.86.
(A) Less than one-tenth of one per cent.

WAGE RATES WITH BOARD

In Table 35, next presented, are shown the daily, weekly, and monthly wage rates, with board, of 787 Mexican laborers to whom the private employment agencies furnished jobs.

A perusal of this table shows that of the 349 Mexicans who were sent to work at daily wage rates, 223, or 63.9 per cent, received from $2 to $2.50 per day; 51, or 14.6 per cent, received from $2.50 to $3 per day; and 60, or 17.2 per cent, received from $3.50 to $4 per day.

Of the 301 Mexicans who were sent to work at weekly rates of wages, with board, 74, or 24.6 per cent, received from $12 to $14; and 189, or 62.8 per cent, received from $16 to $18.

The same private employment agencies furnished 137 jobs to as many Mexicans at monthly wage rates, with board. Of this total 49, or 35.8 per cent, received under $40, and 38, or 27.8 per cent, received from $60 to $70.

In addition to the 787 Mexican laborers, whose wage rates are shown in Table 35, five other Mexicans were sent to work at hourly wage rates, with board. These Mexicans were paid from 30 to 40 cents per hour.

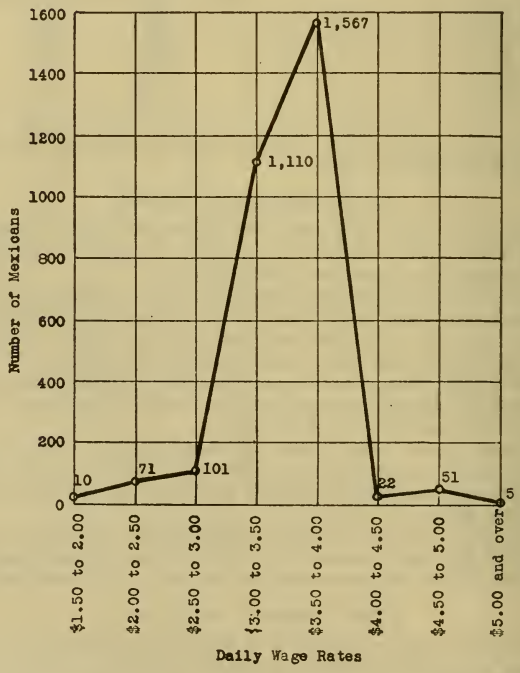
FREE CAMPING FACILITIES

It should be borne in mind that in agricultural occupations at which Mexicans are employed, they are usually furnished, free of charge, camping facilities, such as tents, shacks, or houses. This holds true not only in cases where board is furnished, but also in cases where the Mexicans board themselves. Usually, the Mexicans furnished their own bedding, and sometimes their own tents.

The same is true in building and construction, especially in the construction of roads and highways, when such construction is carried

CHART 25

DAILY WAGE RATES OF 2,937 MEXICAN WORKERS WHO SECURED JOBS THROUGH PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES IN CALIFORNIA DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1928.



on away from centers of population. In such instances Mexicans and others are frequently furnished free camping facilities.

The Division of Housing and Sanitation of the Department of Industrial Relations has supervision over the adequacy of the camping facilities furnished by employers when such camps are for more than five employees.

TABLE 35. DAILY, WEEKLY, AND MONTHLY WAGE RATES, WITH BOARD, OF 787 MEXICANS TO WHOM PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES IN CALIFORNIA FURNISHED JOBS DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1928

Wage rates	Number of Mexicans	Per cent of total	Cumulative percentages
Daily wage rates			
Total	349	100.0	
$1.00 to $1.50	1	.3	.3
1.50 to 2.00	5	1.4	1.7
2.00 to 2.50	223	63.9	65.6
2.50 to 3.00	51	14.6	80.2
3.00 to 3.50	8	2.3	82.5
3.50 to 4.00	60	17.2	99.7
4.00 and over	1	.3	100.0
Weekly wage rates			
Total	301	100.0	
Under $12.00	16	5.3	5.3
$12.00 to $14.00	74	24.6	29.9
14.00 to 16.00	11	3.7	33.6
16.00 to 18.00	189	62.8	96.4
18.00 to 20.00	1	.3	96.7
20.00 and over	10	3.3	100.0
Monthly wage rates			
Total	137	100.0	
Under $40.00	49	35.8	35.8
$40.00 to $50.00	21	15.3	51.1
50.00 to 60.00	14	10.2	61.3
60.00 to 70.00	38	27.8	89.1
70.00 to 80.00	15	10.9	100.0

WAGE RATES BY OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS

The hourly, daily, weekly, and monthly wage rates, with and without board, of 7071 Mexicans to whom the private employment agencies furnished jobs are shown by occupational groups in Tables 36 and 37.

Wage rates, without board, are shown in Table 36. The average hourly wage rate of laborers was 44 cents; their average daily wage rate was $3.80; and their average weekly wage rate was $15.89. For agricultural laborers the average hourly wage was 36 cents; their daily wage rate was $3.04; and their average weekly wage rate was $12. Other average wage rates, without board, shown in Table 36, are: For building and construction laborers the average hourly rate was 46 cents; their average daily wage rate was $3.90; for hotel and restaurant workers the average daily rate was $3, while the average weekly rate was $10; for workers in industries the average daily rate was $3.79, while their average weekly rate was $19.10.

Wage rates, with board, are shown in Table 37. The average daily wage rate for agricultural laborers was $2.62; their average monthly wage rate was $58.66. For building and construction laborers the average daily wage rate was $2.33, and their average monthly wage rate was $50. For hotel and restaurant workers the average weekly wage rate was $15.28, and the average monthly wage rate was $59.74. The average daily wage rate for the Mexicans sent to work in homes and apartments was $1.86; their weekly wage was $10.38, and their average monthly wage rate was $27.79. In many instances these rates undoubtedly also included free rent, although this fact was not reported by the employment agencies.

TABLE 36. AVERAGE HOURLY, DAILY, AND WEEKLY WAGE RATES, WITHOUT BOARD, PAID TO 6284 MEXICANS TO WHOM PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES IN CALIFORNIA FURNISHED JOBS DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1928, BY OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS

Occupational groups	Hourly wage rates	
	Average	Number of Mexicans
Total	$0.43	3,306
Laborers (not elsewhere specified)	.44	2,754
Agricultural laborers	.36	493
Building and construction laborers	.46	58
Industries	.50	1
	Daily wage rates	
Total	$3.51	2,937
Laborers (not elsewhere specified)	$3.80	984
Agricultural laborers	3.04	1,223
Building and construction laborers	3.90	652
Hotel and restaurant	3.00	1
Industries	3.79	76
Mercantile	2.50	1
	Weekly wage rates	
Total	$16.60	41
Laborers (not elsewhere specified)	$15.89	20
Agricultural laborers	12.00	5
Hotel and restaurant	10.00	1
Industries	19.10	10
Mercantile	20.33	5

TABLE 37. AVERAGE DAILY, WEEKLY, AND MONTHLY WAGE RATES, WITH BOARD, PAID TO 787 MEXICANS TO WHOM PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES IN CALIFORNIA FURNISHED JOBS DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1928, BY OCCUPATIONAL GROUPS

Occupational groups	Daily wage rates	
	Average	Number of Mexicans
Total	$2.60	349
Agricultural laborers	$2.62	282
Building and construction laborers	2.33	9
Hotel and restaurant	2.66	51
Homes and apartments	1.86	7
	Weekly wage rates	
Total	$14.99	301
Hotel and restaurant	$15.28	284
Homes and apartments	10.30	17
	Monthly wage rates	
Total	$47.75	137
Agricultural laborers	$58.66	15
Building and construction laborers	50.00	3
Hotel and restaurant	59.74	69
Homes and apartments	27.79	50

REPRESENTATIVENESS OF THE WAGE RATES

The foregoing two tables show average wage rates by occupational groups. These statistics were derived from Tables 38 and 39, next exhibited, which show, in detail, the occupations and wage rates paid to 8661 Mexicans, other than railroad laborers, to whom the fourteen private employment agencies, already referred to, furnished jobs during the calendar year 1928.

Altogether, as was shown in a preceding section of this chapter, these private employment agencies furnished jobs to 14,343 Mexicans during 1928. Of this total 5682 were railroad laborers and 8661 were other workers. Tables 34 to 39 relate to the wage rates of the 8661 Mexicans.

It is probable that in general average wage rates based upon reports from private employment agencies may be somewhat lower than the prevailing average wage rates in various occupations. The reason for this is that the wage rates quoted by employment agencies are those at which workers are hired. Many employers raise the wages of their employees at regular intervals until the maximum rates of pay are reached. However, since most of the Mexicans hired through employment agencies are laborers sent to work on seasonal and relatively short time jobs, the average wage rates based upon the records of employment agencies presented in this report may be considered, on the whole, representative and indicative of prevailing wage rates.

TABLE 38. AVERAGE HOURLY, DAILY, WEEKLY, MONTHLY AND MISCELLANEOUS WAGE RATES*, WITHOUT BOARD, PAID TO 7837 MEXICANS TO WHOM PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES IN CALIFORNIA FURNISHED JOBS DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1928, BY OCCUPATIONS

Occupations	Average	Number of Mexicans	Occupations	Average	Number of Mexicans
			Hourly wage rates		
Total	$0.43	3,306	Laborers	$0.44	2,754
			Peach pickers	.35	10
Building laborers	$0.45	34	Pruners	.35	4
Carpenter	1.00	1	Ranch workers	.35	264
Corn huskers	.35	10	Sanding	.40	2
Ditchers	.38	3	Steam shovel	.45	3
Drivers	.45	2	Teamsters	.45	7
Farm laborers	.35	5	Thinning beets	.35	6
Fruit growers	.40	7	Thinning peaches	.35	18
Fruit pickers	.37	93	Tomato pickers	.35	6
Grade man	.50	1	Tunnel workers	50	3
Hoeing lettuce	.35	64	Vulcanizing	.50	1
Irrigators	.40	6	Woodchoppers	.50	2
			Daily wage rates		
Total	$3.51	2,937	Ore sorters	$3.50	5
			Painters	4.06	13
Baker's helper	$4.00	1	Picking husks	3.00	30
Bean shockers	2.64	57	Planting tomatoes	3.30	4
Bean toppers	3.02	195	Plasterers	7.00	4
Building laborer	3.50	1	Porter	3.00	1
Drivers	4.00	3	Prune pickers	3.25	4
Factory workers	1.50	10	Ranch workers	3.07	270
Farmers	3.50	12	Sanding	2.25	2
Fruit pickers	3.11	79	Sewer diggers	3.00	20
Grade men	4.02	16	Solicitor	2.50	1
Grape pickers	2.12	69	Surface muckers	2.87	43
Highway laborers	4.50	7	Teamsters	3.98	525
Hoeing cotton	3.15	9	Thinning beets	3.09	102
Hoeing lettuce	3.00	49	Thinning peaches	3.26	309
Jack hammerers	4.60	28	Tomato pickers	3.00	34
Junk yard	3.50	11	Tunnel workers	4.50	3
Laborers	3.80	984	Vulcanizing	4.00	2
Miners	3.74	29	Wood carver	8.00	1
			Wood choppers	3.00	4
			Weekly wage rates		
Total	$16.60	41	Fruit pickers	$12.00	5
			Laundry	20.50	6
Bootblack	$15.00	1	Laborers	15.89	20
Cleaning autos	17.00	1	Porter	10.00	1
Clerks	13.33	2	Salesmen	25.00	2
Factory workers	18.00	2	Solicitor	25.00	1
			Monthly wage rates		
Total	$67.86	7	Porter	$75.00	1
			Ranch workers	87.50	2
Clerk	$75.00	1	Sheep herder	50.00	1
Janitors	50.00	2			

*Miscellaneous wage rates: Alaska canneries, 48 at $170 per season; almond pickers, 3 at 15 cents per sack; clearing land, 11 at $60 per acre; contract work, 42 at $8.52 per acre; corn huskers, 8 at $5 per acre; corn huskers, 6 at 10 cents per sack; cotton pickers, 309 at 1¼ cents per pound; dobe makers, 2 at $75 per dobe; fig pickers, 2 at 20 cents per box; fish cannery workers, 4 by piece work; pea pickers, 58 by piece work; prune pickers, 82 at 8 cents per box; ranch workers, 46 by contract; rice cutters, 91 at $15 per acre; salesman, 1 by contract; sewer digger, 1 by contract; spinach pickers, 8 at 6 cents per crate; thinning beets, 12 at $6.33 per acre; fruit pickers, 510 by piece work; grape pickers, 15 at 4 cents per box; hoeing corn, 6 by contract; laborers, 10 by piece work; mechanic, 1 on commission; melon covcrers, 46 at $14 per M; olive pickers, 101 by piece work; painters, 1 by contract; pants finisher, 1 at 45 cents per pants; paper hanger, 1 at 25 cents per roll; tomato pickers, 39 by piece work; walnut pickers, 5 at 70 cents per sack; wood choppers, 76 by piece work. Total miscellaneous: 1546.

TABLE 39. AVERAGE HOURLY, DAILY, WEEKLY, MONTHLY, AND MISCELLANEOUS WAGE RATES, WITH BOARD, PAID TO 824 MEXICANS TO WHOM PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES IN CALIFORNIA FURNISHED JOBS DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1923, BY OCCUPATIONS

Occupations	Average	Number of Mexicans	Occupations	Average	Number of Mexicans
	Hourly wage rates				
Total	$0.38	5			
Bus boy	$0.30	1	Dishwashers	$0.40	4
	Daily wage rates				
Total	$2.61	349	Housework	$1.60	5
			Irrigators	3.00	2
Beet loaders	$3.93	60	Pantrymen	3.00	2
Beet hoers	2.00	15	Porter	3.00	1
Bus boys	3.25	3	Pruners	2.70	2
Cook	5.00	1	Ranch workers	2.29	192
Cutting sunflowers	2.50	10	Teamsters	2.43	7
Dishwashers	2.59	37	Waitresses	2.32	6
Drivers	2.00	2	Yardmen	2.50	2
Fountain work	2.00	1	Herding turkeys	1.00	1
	Weekly wage rates				
Total	$14.99	301	Kitchen helpers	$14.31	6
			Pantrymen	22.33	3
Bus boys	$16.00	15	Porters	16.70	5
Cooks	20.67	6	Supply boy	18.00	1
Dishwashers	16.21	169	Waitresses	12.30	71
Housework	9.63	16	Waiters	14.25	5
Janitors	12.00	3	Yardman	21.00	1
	Monthly wage rates				
Total	$47.75	137	Janitor	$50.00	1
			Kitchen helpers	46.65	3
Bus boys	$48.60	17	Milkers	70.00	5
Cooks	76.55	9	Night clerk	60.00	1
Cook's helper	70.00	1	Pantrymen	65.00	2
Dishwashers	62.38	24	Porter	40.00	1
Flunkeys	60.92	11	Ranch workers	53.33	9
Housework	27.34	49	Teamsters	50.00	3
Irrigator	50.00	1			

Miscellaneous wage rates: Woodchoppers, 27 at $2.67 per cord; woodchoppers, 5 at $2 per tier. Total miscellaneous: 32.

OCCUPATIONS OF MEXICAN IMMIGRANTS AND EMIGRANTS

In view of the fact that Mexicans are employed in large numbers in nonagricultural occupations, the questions arise whether the alien immigrant Mexicans are primarily agricultural or nonagricultural workers and whether, in the United States, the Mexicans follow the same occupations which they followed in Mexico.

As regards occupations of immigrants, before and after coming to the United States, it appears to be an established fact that the tendency among them, particularly among those who arrive into the United States as farmers and farm laborers, is to abandon these occupations and to enter into unskilled or semiskilled trades in the United States.[4]

[4] See "Occupations of Immigrants Before and After Coming to the United States," by Louis Bloch, in the Quarterly Publications of the American Statistical Association, June, 1921, pp. 760–764.

Mr. Harry Jerome, in his book on Migration and Business Cycles, says the following regarding the changing occupations of immigrants:

> "In the immigration years 1908 to 1923, 26 per cent of immigrants were classified as 'laborers,' while 70 per cent of emigrants are placed in this class. On the other hand, 25 per cent of immigrants and less than 2 per cent of emigrants are listed as farm laborers; and the skilled who compose 22 per cent of the immigrants were only 12 per cent of the emigrants."[5]

In Table 40, the occupations of immigrant aliens, all nationalities, and of immigrant alien Mexicans are compared with occupations of the emigrant aliens, all nationalities, and of the emigrant alien Mexicans. The data included in this table, taken from the reports of the commissioner general of immigration, are for the six fiscal years ended June 30, 1928.

It will be noticed that whereas 32 per cent of all immigrant aliens admitted are skilled, only 10.4 per cent of the alien immigrant Mexicans are skilled; and while only 23.7 per cent of all immigrant aliens admitted are classified as laborers, 77.5 per cent of the immigrant alien Mexicans are so classified. Again, farmers and farm laborers were 13.9 per cent of the total immigrant aliens admitted, but only 4.7 per cent of Mexicans admitted were in this occupation.

Of all emigrant aliens who departed during the six years, 15.4 per cent were in the skilled occupations and 60.5 per cent were laborers. As regards immigrants, as a whole, therefore, it appears that they abandon the skilled and farming occupations in the United States and become laborers or semiskilled workers.

The situation appears to be different with the Mexican immigrants. Of the departing Mexican immigrant aliens 74.1 per cent were laborers, compared with 77.5 per cent laborers of the incoming Mexicans. The proportion of Mexican emigrant aliens in the skilled occupations is very nearly the same as is this percentage of Mexican immigrant aliens.

Even allowing for probable errors in the reported occupations of immigrants and emigrants, it appears clear from the data in Table 40, that the Mexican immigrants are preponderantly laborers and that they are not primarily agricultural laborers. While other immigrants, who come in as farmers and farm laborers or as skilled workers, become unskilled laborers in the United States, Mexican immigrants, who come in as laborers, remain laborers in the United States.

[5] Harry Jerome: "Migration and Business Cycles," published by the National Bureau of Economic Research, Inc., 1926, p. 47.

TABLE 40. OCCUPATIONS OF IMMIGRANT ALIENS, ALL NATIONALITIES, AND OF IMMIGRANT ALIEN MEXICANS ADMITTED INTO THE UNITED STATES COMPARED WITH THE OCCUPATIONS OF EMIGRANT ALIENS, ALL NATIONALITIES, AND OF EMIGRANT ALIEN MEXICANS DEPARTED FROM THE UNITED STATES, DURING SIX FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1928

Occupations	Admitted		Departed	
	Total number	Per cent of total	Total number	Per cent of total
Total aliens, all nationalities	2,471,047	100.0	478,782	100.0
Having occupations	1,517,249	61.4	350,136	73.1
No occupations	953,798	38.6	128,646	26.9
Having occupations	1,517,249	100.0	350,136	100.0
Skilled occupations	485,673	32.0	53,893	15.4
Farmers and farm laborers	210,183	13.9	10,935	3.1
Laborers	359,948	23.7	211,793	60.5
All other occupations	461,445	30.4	73,515	21.0
Total alien Mexicans	349,904	100.0	17,037	100.0
Having occupations	222,945	63.7	10,576	62.1
No occupations	126,959	36.3	6,461	37.9
Having occupations	222,945	100.0	10,576	100.0
Skilled occupations	23,260	10.4	1,176	11.1
Farmers and farm laborers	10,400	4.7	410	3.9
Laborers	172,867	77.5	7,833	74.1
All other occupations	16,418	7.4	1,157	10.9

SUMMARY

The figures presented in this chapter regarding the occupations and average wage rates of Mexicans may be briefly restated as follows:

1. According to the best information available, the following wage rates are paid to Mexicans employed in manufacturing industries (Table 32):

(a) 43.6 per cent receive hourly wage rates less than 50 cents; 24.3 per cent from 50 to 55 cents; and 32.1 per cent 55 or more cents.

(b) 32.8 per cent receive daily wage rates from $4 to $4.50; 13.6 per cent from $4.50 to $5; 12 per cent from $5 to $5.50; 59.6 per cent under $4.50; and 40.4 per cent $4.50 or more.

(c) 15 per cent receive weekly wage rates from $16 to $18; 14 per cent, from $18 to $20; 14 per cent, from $24 to $26; 12.5 per cent, from $30 to $32; 49.3 per cent, under $24; 72.8 per cent, under $30; and 27.2 per cent, $30 or more.

2. Most Mexicans in manufacturing industries work as laborers; but Mexicans are also employed in relatively skilled occupations, such as the following (Table 33):

(a) In the metals, machinery, and conveyances group of industries: Blacksmiths, core makers, foundry machine moulders, machinists, mechanics, pipe makers, and polishers;

(b) In the wood manufactures group of industries: Finishers, machinists, stickermen, and upholsterers;

(c) In the chemical, oils, and paints industries: Joint turners, mechanics, and painters;

(d) In the printing and paper goods group of industries: Bookbinders, and workers in photo and job press departments.

(e) In the foods, beverages, and tobacco group of industries: Bakers, butchers, mechanics, and packers.

3. In fruit and vegetable canneries, Mexican female workers are employed mostly in cutting departments, occasionally in canning departments, but rarely in packing departments.

4. In the building and construction industry, Mexicans are employed chiefly as common laborers, at pick and shovel work and at trench digging and cesspool work; also at grading.

5. Judging by the reports received from representative building and construction firms, hourly wage rates of Mexicans in this industry range from 40 to 50 cents; daily wage rates range from $3.50 to $5; but 50 cents per hour and $4 per day appear to be the prevailing rates of pay for Mexicans in this industry.

6. Mexicans are employed by railroads primarily as "section and extra gang" laborers, whose average hourly wage rate is 38 cents and whose average daily wage rate is $3.06.

7. Fourteen private employment agencies, from which reports were received, sent 14,343 Mexicans to work at various jobs during the calendar year 1928. Of this total, 39.6 per cent were railroad laborers; 24.4 per cent, agricultural laborers; 5.0 per cent, building and construction laborers; 26.6 per cent, other laborers; and 4.4 per cent, workers in

industries, in hotels and restaurants, in homes and apartments, and in mercantile establishments.

8. The average wage rates, without board, of Mexicans other than railroad workers, sent to work by employment agencies, are as follows:

(a) Hourly, 43 cents; daily, $3.51; weekly, $16.60; and monthly, $67.86.

9. The average wage rates, with board, of Mexicans other than railroad workers, sent to work by employment agencies, are as follows:

(a) Hourly, 38 cents; daily, $2.61; weekly, $14.99; and monthly, $47.75.

10. In agriculture, in building and construction, and on railroads, camping facilities, free of charge, are often provided in addition to the wages paid.

11. Although the wage rates quoted by employment agencies are those at which men are hired, the average wage rates of Mexicans based upon the records of employment agencies may be considered, on the whole, as representative and indicative of prevailing wage rates.

12. The preponderant majority of Mexican alien immigrants who come into the United States are "laborers," not "farmers and farm laborers." while other immigrant aliens who arrive as farmers and farm laborers and as skilled workers abandon these occupations in the United States to become laborers, or unskilled workers, the Mexicans who enter the United States as laborers, or unskilled workers, remain such in the United States (Table 40).

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CHAPTER VI

MEXICAN LABOR UNIONS

That the Mexican immigrants are beginning to orientate themselves in California is evidenced by the fact that they have begun to organize into unions for the purpose of improving living and working conditions in the land of their adoption. The effort to organize the Mexican workers into unions seems to have begun in Los Angeles in November, 1927. On the tenth day of that month, a committee of the Federation of Mexican Societies in Los Angeles met and adopted a resolution calling upon the mutual and benefit societies affiliated with the Federation to lend their moral and financial support to the cause of organizing trade unions of Mexican workers.

This resolution recited the "deplorable condition of abandonment and isolation" in which the Mexicans lived in the United States, "deprived of food, cooperation and mutual help." The resolution stated, "that the present conditions of the Mexican worker compel him to work on a minimum salary basis to his own detriment and the harmful effect to the workingmen of this region and those of American nationality who naturally feel that the competition is detrimental," and called attention to the fact that much discussion had taken place at the convention of the American Federation of Labor held in Los Angeles in 1927, regarding the harmful effects of Mexican competition with American workers.[1]

THE CONFEDERATION OF MEXICAN LABOR UNIONS

Soon after this resolution was sent out to the Federated Mexican Societies local unions were organized in Los Angeles and in other places in southern California, which formed the Confederation of Mexican Labor Unions (*Confederacion de Uniones Obreras Mexicanas*). On March 23, 1928, the Committee on Laws of the Confederation formulated a constitution, later adopted by the Confederation Convention, modeled after the Regional Confederation of Labor in Mexico (the CROM). The following are some of the points which appear in the Declaration of Principles embodied in the constitution:

1. That the exploited class, the greater part of which is made up of manual labor, is right in establishing a class struggle in order to effect an economic and moral betterment of its conditions, and at last its complete freedom from capitalistic tyranny.

2. That in order to be able to oppose the organization, each day more complete and intelligent, of the exploiters, the exploited class must organize as such, the base of its organization being the union of resistance, in accord with the rights which the laws of this country concede to native and foreign workers.

[1] From a typewritten copy of the resolution, dated November 10, 1927, and signed by the following members of the committee: Pascual S. Rodriques, Francisco O. Currola, Luis F. Bustamante, Armando Vargas de la Maza, Leandro Venegas, Lino Carrillo, Pedro M. Salinas, and F. Alfonso Pesqueira, Consul of Mexico.

3. That the corporations, possessors of the natural and social wealth, being integral parts of the international association of industry, commerce and banking, the disinherited class must also integrate by means of its federations and confederation into a single union of all the labor of the world.

The constitution also provided for a Central Committee composed of two delegates from each of the federated unions. The Central Committee functions for the Confederation between conventions, and is authorized and instructed by the constitution "to make solidarity agreements with labor organizations, national and foreign, as may be appropriate, but always without weakening in any manner the autonomy of this organization and the nationality of its components."

Article 18 of the constitution also provides that "the Central Committee is charged with the duty of taking the necessary action with the Mexican government duly to regulate Mexican immigration to this country and repatriation."[2]

This requirement, incorporated in the constitution, that the Central Committee seek to regulate further Mexican immigration into the United States was explained by officials of Mexican unions to an investigator for the Fact-Finding Committee to mean that the Mexican laborers already in the United States feel the competition of the newly arriving Mexican immigrants. It is therefore one of the important aims of the Confederation to seek to restrict further Mexican immigration into the United States and to try to repatriate as many Mexican laborers as wish to return to their native land. It is one of the purposes of the Confederation to prevail upon the Mexican government to offer colonization opportunities to those Mexicans who find it difficult to make a living in California because of lack of employment.

THE MANIFESTO

On January 9, 1928, the Central Committee of the Confederation of Mexican Labor Unions issued a Manifesto setting forth principles of the Confederation and inviting all Mexican societies and unorganized Mexican laborers to attend the first convention of the Confederation. Since this manifesto describes the philosophy, aspirations, and purposes of the Mexican labor movement in California an exact copy of it, published in English by the Central Committee, is reproduced below:

MANIFESTO

From the active Group of the Federation of Mexican Laborer's Union in the United States

Fellow Countrymen:

In view of the difficult situation which confronts approximately a million Mexican laborers residing in the United States, the active group which directs the work of the Federation of Mexican Laborer's Unions which have just been founded in the city of Los Angeles, has decided to publish this Manifest in order to make known its fundamental principles and the point of view it has taken toward a successful accomplishment of the work it has initiated.

It is undisputable that the numerous Mexican Colonies in the United States are composed almost in their whole of working men, proletarians that so far have lived

[2] Constitucion de la Confederacion de Uniones Obreras Mexicanas, Marzo 23 de 1928. Los Angeles, California.

in the utmost disorganization, helpless and ignorant of the world wide Social movement, which works entirely within the law for their improvement.

Social unity is indispensable for the prosperity of the laboring classes, promoting their defense, stimulating remunerative salaries and the constant betterment of the proletarian.

This added to the conditions which prevail among Mexican labor that has comed into the United States to lend its work and effort, along with the fact that he is a foreigner, which deprives him of the full protection that is given to the natives and in the present circumstances is compelled to work at a minimum wage which is not only harmful to himself, but also to the organized American workman.

All this at the present makes necessary an organization capable of uniting as a whole the Mexican laboring classes in the United States. On the other hand it must be understood that this movement aim is not to agitate, nor to spread or instigate disolvent ideas. All that is desired is to equalize Mexican labor to American labor and to obtain for them what the Law justly allows them.

The active group recognizes that the laboring Mexican has not come to this country to legislate, and considers absurd propagation of disolvent doctrines which only lead to the ruin of the worker, mucha more sin he is a foreigner.

For the carrying out of these ideas and to form a general plan of activities, a convention will be held in the city of Los Angeles to which all the Mexican Societies established in the United States no matter what their principles and also the unorganized labor are invited to attend, that they may join this movement for their own welfare conscious that the effort that they put on this work shall transform the present concept of the Mexican laborer in the United States.

And so that it will not be supposed that the movement in question is harmful, the Active Group makes known its fundamental principles.

PRINCIPLES THAT THE FEDERATION OF MEXICAN LABORERS WILL UPHOLD

1. To organize all Mexican worker in the U. S. in Unions according to Sindical principles.

2. To establish a solid pact with the American and the Mexican working men that any difficulty in the future may be solved mutually.

3. To establish likewise solid relations with the organized Labor of Mexico (Confederacion Regional Obrera Mexicana) and to try to stop the immigration of unorganized Labor into the U. S. which is harmful to the working men of both Countries.

4. To do away with the exploitation of which Mexican victims in the so called employment Agencies, and to get the unions to constitute their own employment department in which supply and demand can be carried on with out a fee so that the workingman's economical interests may not suffer.

5. To constitute prevision offices with the exclusive object of illustrating to Mexican laborers who for the first time come to the U. S. as well as to those who already reside here, all that is referent to working systems, job revenues, contract, forms, interpretations' translations from inglish to spanish or vice-versa working man's insurance indemnizations etc. etc.

6. To keep Mexican laborers from being exploited in the so called commissary stores that still exist in some regions of the U. S., by substituting in their place cooperative stores in which the working man can get all his needs at just prices.

7. To study and resolve in accord with the Mexican government the best systems of repatriation so that those wishing to go back will form agricultural cooperative and receive the best guarantees.

8. Negotiate with the Mexican Govern so that the inmigration of Mexican Labor into the U. S. may be regulated.

Besides the effort for the realization of these principles, the Federation Mexican Labor Unions will do all within its power toward the improvement and good reputation of the Mexican colonies in the U. S., having as a point of view the following principles.

1. Animate by all possible way the conservation of our racial and patriotic principles.

2. To promote a strong cultural campagn giving preference to the education of our children, for which we shall build schools and libraries as is possible.

3. To raise a beneficence fund towards helping our indigent countrymen and to build up or help other Mexican Societies for the establishment of exclusive Mexican hospitals, orphan asylums, alm houses, etc.

4. Constitute Committees of defence which will have competent lawyers, paid by the Mexican colonies themselves so that these with the help of the consulate can effectively defend Mexican who are put in jail, in many cases by mere ignorance of the law.

After having made known these principles the active group invites all Mexican workmen in the U. S. to form labor unions that they may lend their contingent to this great undertaking adhesions received in the office of the Federation.

COMITE CENTRAL:

Elias S. Garcia, Srio. Gral. Enrique Toral Srio. del Interior. Pascual S. Diaz, Secretario del Exterior. Armando Flores, Srio. Tesorero. Jesus M. Olguin, Srio. de Education. Manuel Olmos, Srio. de Actas. Lucas A. Raya, Srio. de Ingles. Manuel F. Cabanillas, Srio. de Agricultura. Alberto R. Tellez Srio. de Trabajo. Rafael Gutierrez, Srio. de Prensa. Organizadores Grales, Manuel Olmos, y Armando Flores.

Another manifesto, which is in all respects similar to the one just quoted, but worded a little differently, was issued by the Ceneral Committee of the Confederation in March, 1929. This manifesto advised that: "In order to make known the work developed in the first year of the life of the Confederation of Mexican Labor Unions, there will soon be held in the city of Los Angeles the second convention in which will be made known all the work carried on for the benefit of Mexican labor in the United States, to which it formally invites all the Mexican societies established in the United States, whatever may be their principles and also to all the Mexican workers even though not organized in any way, so that they may join in this just struggle for their own interests, knowing that the force which they put in the work will transform the present conception which is held of the Mexican worker in the United States."

The principles of this manifesto also called for the organization of all Mexican workers in the United States against exploitation by employment agencies, and commissary stores. The securing of higher wages for all Mexican laborers, the restricting of further Mexican immigration into the United States, the organizing of schools for Mexican children, and the establishing of defense funds to aid "Mexicans in jails, there in many cases through sheer ignorance of the laws," are among the objectives also included in March, 1929, manifesto.

THE FIRST GENERAL CONVENTION

The first general convention of the Confederation of Mexican Labor Unions was held in Los Angeles on May 5, 6 and 7, 1928. The following is a list of unions which, as members of the Confederation, sent delegates to the convention:[3]

Federacion de Uniones Obreras Mexicanas, Los Angeles.
Union No. 1, Los Angeles.
Union No. 2, El Modena.
Union No. 3, Garden Grove.
Union No. 4, Palo Verde, Los Angeles.
Union No. 5, Orange.

[3] *See Adelante, El Unico Periodico Obrero, Viernes, mayo 4 de 1928*, p. 5. Published at 621½ Echandi St., Los Angeles, California.

Union No. 6, Attwood.
Union No. 7, Stanton.
Union No. 8, Santa Ana.
Union No. 9, Talbert, Santa Ana.
Union No. 10, San Fernando.
Federacion de Uniones Obreras Mexicanas Del Oeste, Modena.
Union No. 11, Anaheim.
Union No. 12, Gloryetta.
Union No. 13, Santa Monica.
Union No. 14, Placentia.
Union No. 15, Buena Park.
Union No. 16, Moor Park.
Union No. 17, La Jolla, Anaheim.
Union No. 18, Corona.
Union No. 19, Fullerton.
Union No. 20, San Bernardino.
Union No. 21, Colton.
Union Obreras, Los Angeles.

In addition to delegates from these unions there were also present delegates from Mexican mutual aid societies, which lent their support to the organization of the Confederation.

Sr. Emelio Mujica came to the convention from Mexico as fraternal delegate of the Confederacion Regional Obrera Mexicana, the CROM, but there was no delegate from the American Federation of Labor or from any other American labor union present at the convention.[4]

Among the subjects covered by the resolutions introduced at the convention were the following:

1. That in view of the fact that thousands of Mexican laborers in the United States were already suffering want and deprivations, because of lack of work, the Mexican governent and the CROM be urged to obstruct and discourage all further immigration of Mexicans into the United States.

2. That each member of the Confederation of Mexican Labor Unions in the United States write at once to his relatives and friends in Mexico urging them not to come to the United States, because of the desperate position in which the Mexican laborers in the United States find themselves.

3. That the Confederation of Mexican Labor Unions observe the first day of May, as a labor holiday, instead of Labor day in September.

4. That schools be established by each local labor union for the children of Mexicans.

5. That a pact of solidarity with the American Federation of Labor be negotiated, and

6. That an intensive campaign of organization be instituted.

Other resolutions introduced at the convention condemned several California industrial companies for the manner in which they treat their Mexican laborers.

The convention elected a central committee to carry on the work of the Confederation and to suggest changes to the constitution for consideration by the next convention.

[4] Sr. Mujica remained in Los Angeles for about a month after the adjournment of the convention and helped organize the Mexican unions in southern California.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION

The principles enunciated in the new constitution prepared by the Central Committee for submission to the next convention of the Confederation scheduled to be held in Los Angeles in May, 1929,[5] also emphasizes the class struggle and maintains that "the exploitees, to which belong the greater part of the laborers, have the right to organize the struggle between classes (class struggle) in order to obtain the moral and economical betterment of their conditions up to the complete liberation from the capitalistic tyranny."[5a]

Article 1 of the General Program of this revised constitution explains that since "the results in the industry are obtained through the efforts of the man, the Confederacion de Uniones Obreras Mexicanas does acknowledge that the industries must be in the hands of those who are capable of maintaining said industries in production." In the fifth and sixth articles of the general program of the new constitution, the Confederation undertakes to "study and determine, in accordance with the Government of Mexico, the best systems of repatriations . . . in order that the laborers that return to Mexico do constitute agricultural cooperatives, and they may obtain land in good condition, and the necessary material help, and to bring action before the Mexican Government for the purpose that the immigration of Mexican laborers into the United States should be duly regulated and limited."

The constitution of the Confederation of Mexican Labor Unions calls for the formation of local Federations to be composed of the unions within regions in which there are several local unions. Each Federation must send two delegates to the Central Committee. These delegates, together with a Secretary General, a Secretary for the Interior, a Secretary for the Exterior, a Secretary-Treasurer, and a Secretary for the Acts, constitute the Central Committee. The secretaries of the Central Committee are to be elected at the annual convention of the Confederation.

The Central Committee appoints permanent committees to carry on the work of the Confederation, among which is the Committee of Labor, whose duties are described in the constitution as follows:

> To watch over the welfare of the members of the Confederation seeing that the wages are in proportion to the necessities, and to take, when necessary, the legal steps for the purpose but proceeding always with tact and diplomacy.
>
> To try to solve the conflicts between patrons and laborers which may arise because of wages, excessive work, ill treatments, incompetency, unjustifiable discharge, ill behavior, etc., and to assist when necessary the committees of the kind of all and each one of the groups forming the Confederation for the solution of similar cases.
>
> To keep a book of registry of all the conflicts of this nature in which the committee have meddled, and have been solved as well as of those whose solution is pending.[6]

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[5] The Central Committee later decided not to hold the convention until 1930.

[5a] Constitucion De La Confederacion De Uniones Obreras Mexicanas, Septiembre 21 de 1928, Los Angeles, California.

[6] Our quotations in English of the revised constitution are from a translation of the Constitucion De La Confederacion De Uniones Obreras Mexicanas, Septiembre 21 de 1928, Los Angeles, California, prepared by the Central Committee of the Confederation.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CONFEDERATION

If the importance of the Confederation of Mexican Labor Unions in California is to be judged solely by its present membership, it must be considered relatively insignificant. According to a statement made to an investigator for the Fact-Finding Committee by Pascual S. Rodriquez, the present secretary general of the Confederation, the total membership of the Confederation was between 2000 and 3000 in May, 1928, but that its present (March, 1929) dues daying membership is only about 200. The secretary general, however, explained that the membership of the local unions constituting the Confederation fluctuates with the amount of employment which their members have during the year. In the winter months, work is slack, and the Mexican labor unions register small membership, but the membership increases when Mexicans are employed.[7]

The fact that the Mexican laborers are beginning to organize into unions is significant from the standpoint of those employers who look upon Mexican laborers as tractable and docile persons. It appears probable that, if these labor unions will be able to retain and enlarge their membership, they will make attempts to secure better wages and working conditions to justify the existence of their organizations.

Whatever the facts regarding the adequacy of the supply of Mexican labor for the harvesting of California farm products and for the requirements of railroads and industries, it seems that the Mexicans themselves consider that there is already an oversupply of Mexican workers in California, as evidenced by the fact that they have incorporated in their constitution articles pertaining to the limiting of further Mexican immigration into the United States.

Thus far, the several locals of the Confederation of Mexican Labor Unions have not affiliated with American city labor councils, but the Central Committee of the Confederation is at present considering affiliation with the Central Labor Council of Los Angeles.[8]

Although the Declaration of Principles of the Confederation's constitution urges the importance of the "class struggle" and the "complete liberation [of the proletariat] from the capitalistic tyranny," it also recognizes the need of organizing "Unions of resistance, under the provisions of the laws of this country." It is interesting that the officials of the Central Committee and of the local Mexican unions interviewed by an investigator for the Fact-Finding Committee reiterated that it was their purpose to carry on the organization of Mexican laborers only as permitted by the laws of the United States. In fact, to insure that their organization is functioning within the laws of California, the question of incorporating the Confederation was the main subject of discussion at the meeting of the Central Committee, held

[7] In April, 1929, the Confederacion de Uniones Obreras Mexicanas had under its jurisdiction eleven local unions located in El Modena, Anaheim, Santa Monica, Santa Ana, La Habra, San Bernardino, Gloryetta, and Buena Park. There were two locals in Santa Monica and three locals in Santa Ana. In addition, there was also affiliated with the Confederation the Federacion de Uniones del Este, located in El Modena.

[8] At a meeting of the Central Committee of the Confederation of Mexican Labor Unions held in the Labor Temple, in Los Angeles, on March 17, 1929, it was voted to affiliate with the Central Labor Council of Los Angeles, if such affiliation could be arranged. On June 26, 1928, the Central Committee passed a resolution of adherence to the principles of the American Federation of Labor.

in the Labor Temple in Los Angeles on March 17, 1929. The officials of the Central Committee advised the meeting that such incorporation was not required by law and would serve no useful purpose. It was therefore decided not to incorporate.

THE CONTRACT SYSTEM AND OTHER GRIEVANCES

Prognostications as to the probable future activities of the Mexican labor unions are not within the scope of this report. But the formation of Mexican labor unions in the State of California was considered a fact worth describing. It is equally important to describe some of the working conditions of which the Mexican laborers frequently complain and which give rise to grievances which furnish the ammunition for the Mexican labor propagandists.

It was already noted in a preceding chapter that the large interstate railroads depend primarily upon commissary companies for their Mexican track and section laborers. These commissary companies are afforded the privilege of furnishing to the Mexican track and section laborers board, groceries, and other necessities of life.

These commissary companies do not themselves hire all the Mexican laborers, but instead they depend upon private fee-charging employment agencies to recruit for them the needed numbers of track and section laborers. The Mexican laborers pay fees to the agencies for the railroad jobs. If the laborer happens to be hired directly by the employment office of a commissary company, he does not pay a fee for the same job for which he would have to pay a fee if he were hired through the private employment agency.

The reference to exploitation of Mexican laborers by private employment agencies in the manifesto quoted above relates to the fees which the Mexican laborers pay for railroad and other jobs, which they buy from private employment agencies.

The Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement of the Department of Industrial Relations receives repeated complaints from Mexican laborers regarding overcharges made by agents of commissary companies. These complaints frequently charge that Mexican laborers are coerced into buying supplies from these commissary companies, and that the laborers who refuse to patronize the commissary companies are discharged, or otherwise discriminated against.

The Mexican laborers hired by the commissary companies are given free railroad passes to the places where they are needed by the railroad companies. While en route to their places of work, the commissary company furnishes lunches to the hired laborers for which the laborers are expected to pay. Complaints that the charges for these meals are exorbitant and that they are in effect fees for the jobs were received by the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement. In one case, at least, the division found, upon investigation, that these charges for meals were exorbitant and were disguised employment agency fees.[9] In a similar case, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the state of Oregon prosecuted an agent of the same commissary company for charging exorbitant rates for lunches, which the bureau held was

[9] This case was adjusted by an agreement with the commissary company, whereby the company agreed to return to all Mexican laborers involved the excessive lunch fee and by promising to reduce the charges for such lunches in the future.

in the nature of an employment agency fee. The prosecuted agent was in this case convicted by an Oregon court.

But the thing most frequently complained of by Mexican laborers employed in agricultural pursuits is the labor contract system used in the harvesting of agricultural crops. It is customary for the owner of the crop to enter into an agreement with a labor contractor for the harvesting of the crop. The owner of the crop, who is the land owner, or the lessee of the farm land, agrees to pay to the contractor a stipulated sum of money for the faithful performance of the contract. This contract usually provides for the making of progress payments for the products harvested. The contract also stipulates that a certain percentage of the money (often 25 per cent) which may become due and payable to the contractor for the products harvested is to be retained by the owner of the crop as a guarantee of the proper completion of the contract. The labor contractor hires the laborers and undertakes to pay them their wages, but the laborers must agree that a certain percentage of their wages, equal to the percentage whithheld by the owner of the crop, will be withheld until the end of the harvesting, or the completion of the contract.

It is a notorious fact that as a result of this labor contract system many agricultural laborers, Mexicans and others, are often deprived of their full wages. Every now and then one of these labor contractors absconds with the progress payments given him by the crop owner, without paying his laborers. Sometimes, the labor contractor runs off with the final payment which includes the money withheld as a guarantee of the fulfillment of the contract. It also happens that the owner of the crop is unable to meet his payments to the contractor, with the result that the laborers are not paid their wages.

Under the terms of the contract between the labor contractor and the owner of the crop, the latter can not be legally held for the wages lost by the laborers. But the contractor is usually financially irresponsible; so that it is impossible to collect unpaid wages from him. Neither can the laborers resort to the mechanic's lien law, as there is no lien on the crop for labor performed on it.

This labor contract system, in one form or another, is widespread throughout the state and is used in the harvesting of most of the California agricultural crops. The secretary of the San Bernardino local of the Confederation of Mexican Labor Unions told an investigator for the Fact-Finding Committee that it was the main purpose of the local to "fight against the labor contractor." The secretary explained that in picking oranges, the Mexican laborers get from five to eight cents per box, out of which the labor contractor, himself a Mexican, gets one cent. In addition the labor contractor gets twenty-five cents for the transportation of the Mexican laborers from San Bernardino to and from the orange groves, often only a distance of a few miles. He felt that this charge for transportation was too high considering the fact that dozens of Mexicans are transported in motor trucks only short distances. He pointed out that often, on short jobs, when there are only 1000 boxes to pick, the labor contractor gets as many as thirty men to do the work. He collects from every man twenty-five cents for the round trip to and from the orange grove and one cent per box picked. Since thirty men are employed on the job, their earnings are

small and inadequate. He also averred that the Mexican laborers have no way of checking whether they get full credit for the boxes of oranges picked by them, and that many boxes get "lost."[10]

Whether or not this complaint has merit, the fact is that the Mexican laborers feel that the contract system works to their disadvantage and is used as an unfair means of exploiting them.

On May 24, 1928, the local union of Mexican laborers in Santa Ana issued the following appeal for redress against the labor contractor:

A PETITION FROM THE UNION OF MEXICAN LABORING MEN OF SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA

to the

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, THE LABOR COMMISSION, AND THE AMERICAN PUBLIC IN GENERAL:

In view of the fact that the Mexican, because of not being acquainted with the language, customs, and laws of the United States, is becoming the prey of professional despoilers, the Mexican laboring people of this city are directing this petition to the Chamber of Commerce, the Labor Commission and to the American people in general:

To the Chamber of Commerce, we solicit your cooperation and influence as far as possible in reaching the proper authorities who can put an end to acts of certain individuals who, in an unjust and arbitrary manner, are taking away from the Mexican workmen much of their wages—even a half, in some cases.

As consumers, the Mexican people can not get along with the small wages received and they contract debts which they can not pay.

Having learned the true conditions, we trust the Chamber of Commerce will cooperate with us in attaining the reasonable ends we desire.

To the Labor Commission we beg that you begin an investigation of two individuals who control our labor, and deprive the Mexican workingman of a large part of his wages. The undersigned is glad and willing to cooperate with your Commission and furnish to you all the necessary information within his reach.

To the American Public: We ask your moral support to the end that this unjust treatment of Mexican workmen may stop. This element, which is a large producer, has the right to obtain the necessities of life.

The American people, with that spirit of justice which has always characterized it can, by showing its interest and influence, help us to win out and secure that to which we feel, we are justly entitled.

Respectfully,

(Signed) Yours, L. Lucio.

May 28, 1928.

The "two individuals who control our labor" referred to in this petition are labor contractors, themselves Mexicans, through whom some growers of Orange County were hiring Mexican workers. Mr. L. Lucio appeared before the board of directors of the Santa Ana Chamber of Commerce and charged that the Mexican laborers were receiving only $2.50 per day from the labor contractors, while they were receiving $3.75 per day, per man, from the grower, thus making a profit of $1.25 per day.

After investigating this complaint, the Chamber of Commerce of Santa Ana found that the contractors were receiving from the grower

[10] The secretary of this union also said that labor contractors on ditch work for which Mexican laborers were paid at the rate of twelve cents per foot, also frequently cheat the laborers as to the number of feet they dig.

$3 per day for every Mexican laborer furnished by the contractor, and that the contractor was paying these laborers $2.50 per day. The fifty cents retained by the contractor was to cover his transportation charges, to and from work, compensation insurance, and other expenses.

This, and similar complaints of exploitation of Mexican laborers by contractors, was investigated by the Long Beach District Office of the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement. The investigation disclosed that the Mexican labor contractor was in effect the employer and that he was hiring laborers at the rate of $2.50 per day, which he was actually paying them. The contractor was not legally obliged to pay his laborers more than he bargained for. The fact that he was receiving $3 per day per man from the grower did not change the situation. He could not be considered an employment agent under the California private employment agency act, because the contractor himself was paying wages to the Mexican laborers whom he hired and whose employer he claimed to be.

In Imperial County, where, as will be seen in the next chapter, the labor contract system was responsible for an abortive strike of Mexican laborers, the growers have recognized some of the evils of the contract system and have taken steps to remedy them.

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CHAPTER VII

THE STRIKE OF MEXICAN CANTALOUPE PICKERS

Early in May, 1928, while the Fact-Finding Committee was carrying on its investigation of the Mexican immigration problem in California, there occurred a labor disturbance in the Imperial Valley which attracted state-wide attention. This disturbance, as will be seen in the following report, manifested itself in an abortive strike of Mexican cantaloupe pickers against the provision of the labor contract in the Imperial Valley. As soon as this labor trouble began, Mr. Will J. French, Director of the Department of Industrial Relations, sent the statistician of the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement to make a complete investigation of the causes and effects of the difficulties which the growers were experiencing with their Mexican laborers. Since the investigator's report, heretofore unpublished, has a direct bearing upon the Mexican labor problem in California, it is made the subject of this chapter and is produced below substantially in its original form.

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
DIVISION OF LABOR STATISTICS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT
STATE BUILDING, SAN FRANCISCO

May 26, 1928.

REPORT ON THE STRIKE OF THE
IMPERIAL VALLEY CANTALOUPE PICKERS

Hon. Will J. French, Director,
Department of Industrial Relations,
State of California,
State Building, San Francisco.

Sir:

In compliance with your instructions, I visited the Imperial Valley to investigate the causes and conditions of employment which led to the strike of the cantaloupe pickers and to ascertain the facts surrounding the arrests of many Mexican laborers. In order to secure an impartial and unbiased account of facts which resulted in the incarceration and subsequeut release of about sixty cautaloupe pickers, I interviewed Mr. Elmer W. Heald, district attorney of the Imperial County, Mr. Charles L. Gillett, sheriff of the Imperial County, officials of the Union of Workers of the Imperial Valley, officials, superintendents and field men of employers, and several jailed workers. I also conferred with Messrs. Hermolao E. Torres, vice consul of Mexico, and Alfred Blaisdell, attorney for the vice consul and for the arrested Mexican workers.

While I hesitate burdening you with a lengthy report on a labor disturbance which already appears to have been practically settled, I feel that a thorough understanding of the origin of this labor trouble requires a detailed explanation of the working conditions of cantaloupe pickers, who are mostly immigrant alien Mexican laborers.

The Picking Agreement

The picking of cantaloupes in the Imperial Valley begins early in May and lasts about eight weeks. Approximately, between 4500 to 5000 male workers are engaged in the harvesting of this crop. The preponderant majority of these men are Mexicans, but Filipinos and other Orientals are also working on some ranches as cantaloupe pickers. The bulk of the cantaloupe acreage is around Brawley, Westmoreland, and Holtville.

Before the season's picking begins, the grower of the melons, who in most cases leases the land from an absentee landlord, enter into a picking agreement with a labor contractor. This contractor is usually a Mexican, but there are also Japanese, Filipino, and Hindoo contractors. There is a standard picking agreement in the Imperial Valley which is used with slight variations by all growers, large or small. This agreement makes it obligatory upon the labor contractor to furnish sufficient help to harvest the crop in a workmanlike manner. The grower obligates himself to make weekly payments to the labor contractor, who is referred to as the "picker," for all crates of melons accepted by the distributor, less 25 per cent of the total amount of money which may become due to the contractor. This percentage is retained by the grower until the completion of the contract as a guarantee of the fulfillment of its conditions. The contract emphasizes the fact that "the picker" is an "independent contractor" and stipulates that the pickers hired by the contractor are his own employees for whose acts or omissions the grower is not responsible. The contract further provides that the contractor, not the grower, must comply with the requirements of the Workmen's Compensation Act.

It is a fact that in most cases, the labor contractor, is financially no more responsible than are the Mexican laborers whom he hires to do the picking. If the contractor gets from the grower 13½ cents per standard crate of melons, he usually retains half a cent for his work of hiring others and for his responsibility of handling and distributing the money received from the grower. Some contractors board the pickers and before paying them they make the proper deductions to cover the board bills. Several of the growers whom I interviewed professed that they did not know how the contractor distributed the money among his workers. It is more or less of a cooperative arrangement whereby the contractor acts as the intermediary between the growers and the pickers. It saves the grower the trouble of hiring each worker and of keeping a record of his account. At the end of the season, the grower pays to the contractor for the last week's crates marketed plus the percentage held to insure the completion of the contract.

The difficulties with the contract usually start towards the end of the season. Sometimes the contractor absconds with the last payment he receives from the grower and leaves his workers stranded without the wages for their last week's work and minus the 25 per cent withheld from season's wages. If the contractor is honest enough and willing to pay his workers, his intentions are sometimes checkmated by the failure of the grower to make the last payment to the contractor. The growers are often financed by other persons and a bad market, poor management, or an unsuccessful crop leaves them without funds before the season is over. There is another aspect to this situation. In some cases the grower makes a contract with a Japanese contractor to cultivate, pick, and pack the crop. The Japanese contractor in turn lets out the picking and the packing contracts to other contractors. In some cases, this Japanese contractor fails to pay the picking or packing contractor to the detriment of their respective workers.

These defalcations are not infrequent, and the Mexican laborers in the Imperial Valley have suffered considerably on account of them. The records of the El Centro office of the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement are replete with cases of defaulting contractors. Where the contractor absconds with the last payment received from the grower, it is almost next to impossible to do anything for the laborers affected. The grower can not be held, because it was the contractor, not the grower, who hired them and who was supposed to pay them their wages. If a crop failure, a bad market, or poor management is responsible for the financial reverses of the grower, and the contractor does not get paid, the workers are deprived not only of their last week's pay but also of the 25 per cent of the season's wages. The perennial defalcations of the contractors or of the growers have resulted in genuine dissatisfaction with the contract system on the part of Mexican laborers. Not only do they complain that they often do not get their wages at the end of the season, but they also claim that the contractor often shorts them and pays them for less crates than they pick.

Although the labor contractor is not a new phenomenon in the Imperial Valley, at least one of the provisions of the picking agreement, and of similar agreements, is probably illegal. It is very doubtful whether the contractor who hires the picker on a piece work basis may legally withhold 25 per cent of every week's wages.[1]

La Union de Trabajadores Del Valle Imperial

(The Union of Workers of the Imperial Valley)

The difficulties which the Mexican laborers have been experiencing with the labor contractors are undoubtedly, in large measure, responsible for the organization of the Union of Workers of the Imperial Valley. I was told by Sr. Hermolao E. Torres, vice consul of Mexico, that Sr. Carlos V. Ariza, former consul of Mexico in Calexicco conceived the idea of organizing the Mexican laborers. Mr. Ariza was consul of Mexico in Calexico for several years and during his term of office he was frequently called upon by his countrymen to help them collect their wages from defaulting contractors. Mr. Ariza would naturally call upon the El Centro office of the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement for assistance in these matters. While our El Centro office collected many thousands of dollars for the Mexican laborers, in many instances our El Centro office was unable to collect the wages of workers of the Imperial Valley whose employers were irresponsible labor contractors, or growers. Mr. Ariza was aware of the facts surrounding the working conditions of the Mexican workers in the Imperial Valley, and he apparently considered these conditions as justifying the formation of a Union of Mexican Workers. I was told by Mr. Torres that Mr. Ariza had addressed several organization meetings which resulted in the formation of La Union de Trabajadores Del Valle Imperial.[2]

When Mr. Carlos V. Ariza ceased to be consul of Mexico he joined a firm of American attorneys in El Centro, to act as Spanish interpreter and to get an enlarged Mexican clientele. The services of this firm of attorneys were engaged to incorporate the union under the laws of the State of California. It is the belief of Mr. Elmer Heald, district attorney of the Imperial county, that Mr. Ariza was not directly responsible for the strike which followed the organization of the union. From what I could gather on this subject, the former Mexican consul of Calexico decided that he would have nothing further to do with the union as soon as its members went on strike and a number of its members got into difficulties and public opinion was aroused against them. I am citing Mr. Ariza's part in the formation of the union only because many people in the Imperial Valley blamed him for the strike of the Mexican laborers. Personally, I believe that if it were not for Mr. Ariza, the union would probably have been organized anyway. I am basing my belief upon the fact that similar Mexican unions have been very recently organized throughout southern California and that one of the principal aims of these unions is to do away with the labor contracting system. (I am referring to the Confederacion De Uniones Obreras Mexicanas.)

The Incorporation of the Union

The union was organized in the latter part of April. Its board of directors was selected on April 22, 1928. Its birth was announced in the Imperial Valley under the name of the "Mexican Labor Union of the Imperial Valley, Inc." or as the "Union of United Workers of Imperial Valley." The original articles of incorporation as prepared by the firm of attorneys referred to in the preceding paragraph carried the name of "Union of United Workers of the Imperial Valley, Inc." But the original articles were returned by our Secretary of State because they did not specify under which Civil Code the incorporation was wanted. The attorneys took advantage of it and changed the name of the union to "Mexican Mutual Aid Society of Imperial Valley." The revised articles of incorporation were sent to the Secretary of State at Sacramento on May 15, 1928. The objects of this society as set forth in article II of the articles of incorporation are, among others, "to assist and protect the members in their dealings with other persons and *to counsel and advise the members in all matters pertaining to their respective contracts of employment, and to assist the members in the collection of moneys and wages due the*

[1] Our laws provide that wages must be paid in full semi-monthly, or monthly where the workers are lodged and boarded.

[2] Ten exhibits, submitted by the investigator, in corroboration of statements made by him in this report, are not included in this chapter.

members as a result of their work and employment in Imperial Valley."[3] The headquarters of this union are in El Centro, but the location of its largest local is in Brawley. Branches of the union were also organized in Westmoreland and in Calipatria. The officers of the union claimed to have 1200 members, as of May 4, 1928, in El Centro, Brawley, Westmoreland and Calipatria. Branches of the union have been organized in these places.

The Demands

During the first week in May, when the growers were getting ready to sign up the labor contractors, they were surprised to receive written demands from the union of Mexican laborers. These demands, which were delivered by messengers to the principal companies operating in the Imperial Valley, were couched in very respectful language. The officers of the Brawley branch of the union visited the secretary of the Brawley Chamber of Commerce, and asked him to help them negotiate with the employers. While the secretary did not consider all their demands excessive, he declined the honor of acting as their intermediary. A statement of the wages and working conditions wanted by the union, signed by the president, secretary, and treasurer, was also addressed to the Chamber of Commerce of El Centro. The officers of the union asked the cooperation of the El Centro Chamber of Commerce in its efforts to secure improved working conditions. The following is an exact copy of the statement of wages and working conditions requested by the union and delivered to the principal cantaloupe growers during the first week in May, 1928:

To Whom It May Concern:

Hereby we make to your acknowledgement, that on the 22d day of April, of the year 1928, was formed the board of directors of the Union of United Workers of Imperial Valley, State of California.

By the same means we opportunately believe on directing to you, soliciting your valuable help for a convenience agreement to the picking season of cantaloupes, tomatoes and watermelons.

In accordance with the bad occasions that we've had in the past years, it makes us necessary of a better understanding of our business among the Mexican people residing as strangers in the United States. We want to keep on cooperating with our hand of labor, but we claim a more liberal wages, enough to cover our most urgent necessities of the actual situations, and we hereby propose to you gentlemen the points of our wishes.

During the year we scarcely work 185 days, of which we acquire the sum of $555 in which we couldn't meet our expenses of alimentation, clothing, house rent, medicine, automobile, and other small exigents.

As you understand, with this amount above stated, we live in the most unhonorable and miserable way, in our concept. For instance, you know that the picking season of cantaloupes is at hand, and we make to your acknowledgment that the prices we are asking for are very reasonable according to justice of the companies and we union laborers.

We hereby note the prices in accordance with all the laborers and were approved convenient, and we hereby wait for the approval of the honorable companies. The fact is that in the past years in cases like the present, they have demonstrated their willing attitude as we've said before in our sacrifices, in compliments of our labors, for such reason we wish that the prices we ask for will be approved.

Therefore, we ask of your valuable moral and material influence to our petition before the companies.

[3] The italics are mine.

For the above anticipated, this union retires, giving you many thanks for the present.

Yours truly,

(Signed) ROMAN MIRELES,
REFUGIO RIOS,
JOSE L. ALONZO,
F. BARRERA,
MANUEL GARCIA,
PASCUAL M. ACEVES,
BENITO GUTIERREZ,
PONCIANO MARTINEZ,
FIRZO AVILEZ,
FRANCISCO HERNANDEZ,
Board of Directors.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Prices that we wish the companies to pay, starting with the early crop: The least price of cantaloupes is:

Standard crates	$0.15 per crate
Flat crates	.17½ per flat

All empty crates must be distributed all over the fields by the companies own account, and the full crates must be hauled by the pickers, at the same time the company or farmers must furnish such as horses, wagons, or trucks, to be at hand, and the packing sheds must be built in the fields.

The companies must furnish picking sacks and enough ice.

In the final picking season the *least* re-collection must be at least two crates to the acre.

Prices on Honey Dew per crate is 8 cents.

Must furnish enough wagons of Honey Dew.

Prices of Casaba per crate ____. Able conditions for the hauling of said crop.

Prices of watermelon cutters are $1.25 per hour, and for watermelon pickers is $1 per hour.

Prices on tomatoes per crate are:

Ripe	$0.15 per crate
Pink	.14 per crate
Green	.13 per crate

These prices are for every packed crate, including the hauling, but one cent less if said crop is just picked and left in the field.

Prices per hour in any kind of picking is 75 cents the least.

All percentage left weekly must be deposited in any bank in the city by the companies or farmers.

Prices for sorting and handling crates is 75 cents an hour, the least.

Prices for nailing, stamping, and loading is 5 cents a crate.

The companies must furnish lumber and brush enough to build sheds for the laborers and install all necessary closets for the service of the same.

In case of accidents caused to the laborers during work, the companies must cover all expenses during their sickness, and if further consequence appear, caused by illness, the companies must pay indemnity as the law requires.

UNION WORKERS OF IMPERIAL VALLEY,

May 3, 1928.

(Signed) ROMAN MIRELES,
REFUGIO RIOS,
JOSE L. ALONZO,
F. BARRERA,
MANUEL GARCIA,
PASCUAL M. ACEVES,
BENITO GUTIERREZ,
PONCIANO MARTINEZ,
FIRZO AVILEZ,
FRANCISCO HERNANDEZ,
Board of Directors.

When these demands were delivered, several of the companies had already signed up their labor contractors at the rate of 13½ cents per standard crate. The union asked for 15 cents per crate. In addition, the union also asked that the companies give the workers free ice for the drinking water in the fields and also that the companies furnish the picking sacks free of charge. In some cases the growers furnished a certain amount of ice free; other growers furnished sacks free; still other growers charged the cantaloupe pickers for the ice and sacks. The growers did not consider the demand for 15 cents and free ice and sacks too unreasonable, but they felt that the demand for 75 cents per hour and other demands were exorbitant. The prevailing hourly rate last year and in former years for cantaloupe picking was between 50 and 60 cents.[4] The growers did not want to recognize, or negotiate with, the union, because they felt that the union did not represent the preponderant majority of the Mexican cantaloupe pickers who were willing to work under the established working conditions.

Refusal to Sign the Picking Agreement

The presentation of the union's demands was synchronized with and was followed by the refusal of cantaloupe pickers to go to work on the basis of the old working conditions. From what I could gather the union did not plan a strike at this time, but hoped to come to an agreement with the employers through conciliatory means. The union, however, lost control of its members and of its sympathizers, with the result that a spontaneous strike occurred on most of the ranches in and about Brawley and Westmoreland. The Mexican laborers who were already on the ranches preparatory to their going to work were not united as to their desire to strike for better working conditions. According to the reports I could gather, some of them refused to work; while most of them were willing to start, or continue picking melons.

The growers became genuinely alarmed. Heretofore they have been accustomed to considering the Mexican workers as bovine and tractable individuals, best adapted to the climatic conditions in the Imperial Valley and therefore the most desirable workers in the valley. The organization of a union of Mexican laborers seems to have evoked in the growers an ardent wish for its earliest demise. While the growers recognize the right of the Mexican laborers to organize into a legitimate union, they feel that such union might hamper the orderly and amicable relations which had heretofore existed between them and their Mexican laborers.

Arrests on the Sears Ranch

The first four Mexican laborers arrested were Juan Barcelo, David Lopez, Pamfila Merano and Jose Diaz. They were arrested on May 7, and arraigned before Hon. H. B. Griffin, Justice of the Peace of the Brawley Township. These four defendants were charged by Deputy Sheriff Geo. W. Wright with disturbing the peace, but they pleaded "not guilty" and were confined in the county jail in default of $1,000 bail each, fixed by Judge Griffin. These four Mexicans were arrested on the Baughman ranch of Sears Bros. Co.[5] The circumstances surrounding this arrest were related to me by Mr. E. L. Sears himself. The facts in the case as given me by Mr. Sears are substantially as follows:

The Sears Bros. Co. had already signed up with the labor contractor at the rate of 13½ cents per crate. The company always furnished 100 pounds of free ice daily, but did not furnish the picking sacks. For about three or four days prior to May the seventh the Mexicans argued whether they should or should not go to work on the basis of the labor contract already signed. About half of the thirty laborers on the ranch were willing to work; while the other half insisted on the union contract.[6] The recalcitrant workers harangued and argued with willing workers and prevented them from beginning to pick the melons. The fifteen union workers threatened and tried to take away the sacks from the other fifteen pickers who were ready to start working. My informant, Mr. Sears, lost patience with

[4] Cantaloupe picking is done on a piece work basis as explained in a foregoing section of this report, but often additional pickers are hired in the middle of the season on an hourly basis.

[5] This ranch is located nine miles northwest of Brawley.

[6] It should be explained here that frequently all pickers hired by the contract-picker are asked to sign the labor contract. These pickers are not legal parties to the contract, but many growers prefer to have their signatures in addition to the signature of the labor contractor.

the disturbers and discharged them, ordering them to leave the company's property. The discharged laborers, however, insisted that they had a right to remain in the camp, on the company's property, and produced a letter from the union authorizing them to remain on the premises. Needless to say, this letter did not exercise a profound influence upon Mr. Sears. He called upon the district attorney and immediately secured the services of the sheriff, who came to the ranch and arrested the four defendants already referred to. These four were the only ones who were left on the ranch out of the fifteen laborers who had first refused to move off the company's property. Eleven laborers had apparently left the premises before the sheriff arrived on the scene.

Deputy Sheriffs Mobilized

What transpired on the Sears' ranch is typical of what took place on other ranches in the disturbed cantaloupe district about Brawley and Westmoreland. The Mexican laborers were agitated and were eagerly awaiting the outcome of their first efforts at organization. They gathered in pool rooms and on street corners in Brawley and Westmoreland, discussing loudly and vociferously the affairs of their union, their difficulties with their employers, and the jailing of their countrymen. Although the weather was rather cool and the melons were not ripening as rapidly as they would have, had it been warmer, the growers became anxious lest they would suffer partial loss of their crop. The full weight of the law was called into action. The sheriff was authorized to deputize willing assistants. About forty men were made deputy sheriffs, some of whom were the field inspectors, foremen and superintendents of the growers.[7]

The Arrest of the District Attorney's Visitors

Mr. Elmer Heald, the district attorney of the Imperial County, sent for a number of Mexican laborers to come to his office to tell him what the trouble was about, and to advise them of their duties and rights under the laws. On May 8th, about three o'clock in the afternoon, twelve Mexican laborers assembled in front of the county courthouse in El Centro preparatory to their meeting with the district attorney. Sheriff Gillett was not aware of the purpose of these men's visit in El Centro; so he arrested them and booked them "held for investigation." But when about an hour later the district attorney missed his invited visitors, the sheriff discovered his error and released the prisoners.[8]

Other Arrests

The county officials were determined to stamp out all signs of law-breaking and to prevent possible violence and possible serious damage to the crops. On May 9th, the sheriff and his deputies were most active in their efforts to enforce the law. On that day they arrested thirty-six Mexican laborers. Most of these men were picked up on a ranch four miles north of Westmoreland, under circumstances similar to those attending the arrest of the first four laborers on the Sears ranch. Thirty-three of the jailed Mexican laborers were booked by the sheriff as "vagrants," but the complaint which was filed against them by Geo. W. Wright, deputy sheriff, on May 11th, charged them with "disturbing the peace."[9] These laborers were held in jail until May 17th, in default of $250 bail each.[10] On that day they were

[7] I did not ascertain the exact number of men who were deputized by the sheriff, but the newspapers in the valley said that between 40 and 60 men were deputized. I heard the sheriff testify in the superior court that he deputized about forty citizens.

[8] The following were the twelve Mexicans arrested in front of the courthouse: F. B. Gonzales, Ramon Duarte, Felix Estrada, Abraham Perez, J. Barrara, Jesus Aguilana, Luis Baragas, Frank Martinez, Angel Espanza, Antoninal Golindo, R. Gonzales, and Jose Estrada.

[9] The following Mexican laborers were arrested on May 9th. M. S. Turazas, M. Comocho, Filberto Rico, Jose Garcia, Julio Lozano, Jose Chavez, E. Garcia, A. Martinez, E. Guin, Agapito Arroyo, Francisco Sistos, B. Ramirez, Apolinio Perez, L. Chavez, Jesus Chaves, Martin Perez, Joaquin Somaindio, C. B. Billala, Abalino Guillen, Julian Perez, A. Arazco, Undeladia Rielio, Mart Samudio, Robilo Eschario, Louis Escaran, Juan Sepulvia, Salvador Modehka, V. Ramirez, Pino Pacheco, Portfollo Estrado, Antonio Artiz, Elardio Humanez, Louis Torres, Juan Vega, Jose Gonzales, Apolino Guterez.

[10] Filberto Rico was held until May 14th in default of $1,000 bail. He was charged with disturbing the peace, but was released "by order of the district attorney" on May 14th. Jose Gonzales, Apolino Guterez, M. C. Turzazaz, and Mr. Comocho were released on May 11th. The sheriff's record shows that they were released "by order of the district attorney." Louis Torres and Juan Vega pleaded guilty on May 16th, and were given 30 days suspended jail sentences.

released on their own recognizance by the justice of the peace of Westmoreland Township. Their trial was set for June 6, 1928.

Arrested for Resisting an Officer

On May 10th, Sheriff Charles L. Gillett arrested Abraham Perez, Thomas Rodriquez, Felix Rodriquez, and his wife, Francisca Rodriquez. These defendants were booked in the sheriff's office for "resisting an officer." The complaint filed against them by Geo. W. Wright charged them with "disturbing the peace."

The sheriff said that when he entered the Westmoreland pool hall owned by Thomas Rodriquez he was shoved out of the place by the crowd of Mexicans who were assembled there. He thereupon arrested the three Rodriquez and Abraham Perez. An entirely different version of the story was given me by Mrs. Francisca Rodriquez. This is substantially her story: On May 10th, at about ten-thirty in the morning, the sheriff entered the pool hall and found about six Mexican laborers chatting. The sheriff ordered Felix Rodriquez to tell the assembled Mexicans to leave the pool hall and to go to work. Her husband refused to do it. Mr. Gillett then informed Rodriquez that he was the sheriff, and repeated his order. Rodriquez still refused to order his customers out of the pool hall. Thereupon, the sheriff drew his gun. Mrs. Francisca Rodriquez grabbed the sheriff's arm to prevent him from striking or shooting her husband. The sheriff thereupon arrested the three Rodriquez, and Abraham Perez, who was also on the premises. On May 11th, these four defendants were released by order of Justice F. T. Cook of Westmoreland, who accepted their own bonds of $250 each. Their trial is still pending, but the trial date is not set.

More Arrests

On May 11th Frank Hernandez was arrested in El Centro and was charged with "disturbing the peace." His bail was set at $1,000, which he could not furnish. Frank Hernandez was one of the strike leaders, and was born in Arizona. Manuel Alcantez was arrested in Westmoreland on May 13th, was charged with disturbing the peace, and was released on May 14th "by order of the sheriff." Jesus Avalos was arrested in Brawley on May 13th, and was charged with disturbing the peace. He was turned over to the U. S. Immigration authorities in Calexico.[11] Manuel Murietta was arrested in Brawley on May 13th, and was charged with disturbing the peace. On May 16th, he pleaded guilty and was given a ninety days suspended jail sentence. A. M. Maldanado was arrested in Brawley on May 14th. He was booked "held for investigation," and was released on May 16th.

Habeas Corpus Proceedings

The trials of Juan Barcello, David Lopez, Pamfilla Merano and Jose Diaz, who were arrested in Brawley on May 7th and were lodged in jail in default of $1,000 bail each, was set for June 7, 1928. The trial of Frank Hernandez, arrested on May 11th and held in default of $1,000 bail, was also set for June 7, 1928. Attorney Alfred Blaisdell of Calexico, who was retained to defend the jailed Mexican laborers, filed two writs of habeas corpus in the superior court in El Centro; one on behalf of of Frank Hernandez; the other on behalf of Barcelo, Lopez, Merano and Diaz.

The hearings on these writs took place on May 15th before Judge A. C. Finney.[12] The hearings disclosed that the immediate reason for the arrest of Frank Hernandez was that one of Sheriff Gillett's secret service men had spotted Hernandez as one of the chief labor agitators responsible for the Mexican labor trouble. Sheriff Gillett also testified that several years ago the same Hernandez was wanted by the county authorities for having run away with a pay roll and the wife of one of his employees. But it was also revealed during the hearings on this writ of habeas corpus that Hernandez was not a recent arrival in the Imperial Valley and that the county authorities could have apprehended him long before he was arrested in El Centro. Judge Finney held that under the circumstances the bail of $1,000 was not excessive and that the date of the trial, June 7th, was only less than

[11] On May 16th, Mr. Herbert Hadley, Inspector in Charge of the port of entry in Calexico, told me that of two Mexicans turned over to him by Sheriff Gillett, he released one and returned the other into the custody of the sheriff. Neither of the two were subject to deportation.

[12] It will be recalled that Frank Hernandez is an American citizen born in Arizona. He speaks English fluently.

thirty days after his arrest and was therefore reasonable under the circumstances. The upshot of this decision was that the next day Frank Hernandez appeared in Judge Mayfield's court in El Centro, pleaded guilty and took a six months' suspended jail sentence. This was the result of an understanding with the district attorney's office, who offered to recommend a suspended sentence for him if he would plead guilty and if he would return to Arizona where he was born. Frank Hernandez left the Imperial County.

David Lopez, one of the other four defendants, on whose behalf the second writ of habeas corpus was filed, was not brought into court. I subsequently learned that on the morning of the fifteenth of June, he decided to plead guilty and to accept a six months' suspended jail sentence. The district attorney recommended that the sentence be suspended during good behavior.

As regards Barcelo, Merano and Diaz, Judge Finney ruled that the bail be reduced from $1,000 to $500. The bail might have remained at $1,000, as Merano and Diaz remained in jail until May 19th. On that day they changed their plea of not guilty to guilty, and were sentenced to ninety days in the county jail by Judge H. B. Griffin of Brawley. The sentences were suspended upon the recommendation of the district attorney. Juan Barcelo furnished bond for his appearance and was released on May 18th. It should be added that after the hearing in the superior court on May 15th, the defendants, Barcelo, Merano and Diaz, were moved to less desirable quarters in the county jail. Whether this was calculated to expedite their plea of guilty, or whether it was necesary as a disciplinary measure, I did not ascertain.

Stern Justice

Mr. Charles L. Gillett has been sheriff of the Imperial County for about six years, but the hot sun of the Imperial Valley did not vitiate his ardent enthusiasm for law enforcement. Prompted by an intuitive sense of justice and spurred on by the requirements of the occasion, he sallied forth undauntedly to bring order out of the chaos which threatened to engulf the land of the cantaloupes. Mr. Elmer Heald, the district attorney, told me that he believed that oppression breeds radicalism "but that under the circumstances I did not know how else I could handle the situation." Neither could the sheriff see any other way of handling the situation. He stated time and again that he did not care how many unions the Mexicans organized, but that so long as he was sheriff he would permit no agitation, intimidation, or interferencce with the harvesting of the cantaloupe crop by the willing workers. By virtue of his office of Sheriff of the Imperial County, he ordered three Mexican and one Negro pool halls in Westmoreland closed, and he instructed his deputy in Westmoreland to arrest the proprietors should they dare to violate his injunction. The reason for this order was that pool halls are the workers' gathering places, and in times of labor trouble, pool halls might be used for meetings, at which fiery and gesticulating orators might agitate. The sheriff also ordered the union office at Brawley closed, and advised the union officers and others that he would arrest those who would attempt to open the union office. Neither the pool halls nor the union office were open on May 18th, when I left the Imperial Valley.[13]

In a preceding paragraph I have already pointed out that Sheriff Gillett had turned over two of his prisoners to the U. S. Immigration authorities. Further evidence of his determination to stamp out the labor trouble may be gleaned from the following quotation from Imperial Valley Press of May 9, 1928: "In warning the men at the jail yesterday afternoon, the sheriff made it clear that quick justice would be meted out to anyone caught seeking to bring about a riotous gathering and warned those that are not satisfied with conditions here that they might better return to Mexico. He intimated that at the first outbreak of any kind as a result of the movement now afoot, a general deportation movement of all Mexican laborers employed in the valley would begin. In closing his talk the sheriff made it clear that those abiding by the laws and not taking part in the strike movement would not be molested in any way."

The sheriff's talk did not fall upon deaf ears. What the Mexicans thought of it can be learned by reading the article translated from a Spanish newspaper published in Mexicali. The article suggests, in part, that if the Mexicans are threatened with deportation for "their peaceful demand * * * to have their salaries

[13] The district attorney told me on May 18th that he had advised the sheriff on that day to permit the pool halls to be opened. If the pool halls will become disorderly, he will recommend the revocation of their licenses.

raised one cent * * * the North-American oilmen, who have made such strenuous efforts in Mexico for the reformation of our oil legislation, will find it much more practical to leave Mexico if they do not like our way of handling matters." Another paragraph in this article reads as follows: "When the people of the United States stood before the formidable problem of agricultural domination by the Japanese in California, they stopped the yellow immigrants without a moment's hesitation. Why should our Mexican laborers not be allowed to organize according to the law of the United States for the better protection against those Japanese ranchers who, in the Imperial Valley, have been a source of constant trouble to our consul and to the North American authorities on account of nonfulfillment of labor contracts with Mexicans and of nonpayment of their salaries." No mention is made in the article of defaulting Mexican labor contractors.

I have quoted these paragraphs to depict the feelings which were engendered during the labor trouble in the Imperial Valley.

The county authorities were determined to stop what threatened to become a general strike and what might have resulted in serious riots. Undoubtedly many innocent Mexican laborers were arrested on charges of vagrancy and disturbing the peace, but it is equally certain the arrests would have been made if the strikers were other aliens or were native-born citizens. Of the three prisoners I interviewed, one, Juan Vega, was born in Clifton, Arizona; another, Manuel Camacho, 19 years old, has been 11 years in the United States; while the third, C. B. Billalos, 18 years old, has been 8 years in the United States. The trio were picked up, with many others, on the Larson ranch, four miles north of Westmoreland. They claimed that they did not know what they were arrested for and averred that they were entirely innocent.

While, as I have just stated, many of the arrested Mexicans were undoubtedly innocent of either vagrancy or disturbing the peace, it is also unquestionably true that others were guilty as charged—at least, technically. In the melee the authorities found it impractical to separate the culprits from the innocent and therefore resorted to the expedient of wholesale arrests. Refugio Rios, secretary of the Brawley branch of the Mexican Labor Union of the Imperial Valley, issued a statement which was published in the Imperial Valley Press and in the Brawley News, on May 10, 1928, disavowing all overt acts on the part of the members of the union and reiterating that the union was established for the betterment of the living conditions of the members and to "protect them and help them in the difficulties, principally in matters connected with the payment of their wages for day labor or of their compensation for contract work, from which contracts during a number of years, our people have experienced considerable trouble in getting full payment for the work performed by them."

The sheriff's decisiveness in rounding up and incarcerating actual and potential disturbers of the peace undoubtedly had the effect of stopping a movement which might have resulted in an effective general strike and in heavy losses to the growers.

Anonymous Circulars

Not one of the many persons whom I interviewed in the Imperial Valley could give me a coherent account of the causes which led to the strike and of the incidents which brought about the numerous arrests. Every one seemed to have another version of the story; so that I had to gather documentary evidence to check up the conclusions which I was forming during my investigation.

I secured, among other documents, copies of anonymous circulars which were apparently printed by the growers. In one of these circulars the attention of the Mexican laborers is called to the fact that they owed loyalty to the growers and shippers of the Imperial Valley in return for their united opposition to legislation proposed in congress to put Mexicans under the quota restriction laws. Two other circulars are not so conciliatory in tone. They warn the Mexican laborers of the Imperial Valley that thousands of outside Mexican and other laborers are ready to be imported into the valley to take the place of the striking cantaloupe pickers. Since these circulars are not too long, I am quoting them below in full.

MEXICANS:

WORKERS LOOK OUT!

Federal officers of the United States are watching the working conditions in the Imperial Valley.

You know that the Imperial Valley growers and shippers have expended thousands of dollars for their cause. They have sent representatives to

Washington in order to light legislation which may prevent you from entering this country.

Many of you, who are now in the Imperial Valley, would have to return to your country with little chance of coming back to the United States, were it not for the valley growers and shippers who have spent their time and money in your behalf.

Remember this. If you fail to cooperate, the same men who have given their time and their money to get you into this country and to protect you here, the same men will turn against you. They will use their funds and their influence to have you brought back to your country and your chances of seeing the United States again will be rather remote. Remember this carefully before cooperating with those who are working solely for their own interests and who enrich themselves at your expense. They have nothing to lose. You lose everything and gain nothing.

ATTENTION MEXICAN WORKERS:

The organization of the Imperial Valley Growers and Shippers of Melons offers you a regular wage scale which you pay to organizers who defraud you and who are not interested in your personal wellbeing. Remember the sufferings you had to endure several years ago. You were then persuaded to enter an organization which seized your money and deprived you of your profits.

At the present time the Imperial Valley planters have mobilized, all through Arizona, New Mexico and Texas, thousands of Mexican laborers who are ready to come to the Imperial Valley at short notice and who will seize your work. The railway company is prepared to bring these workers to the valley within twenty-four hours.

The manager of the union of said organized districts tells them not to be afraid. This is true. Many of you know that, just now, more men are out of work in the West than in former years.

So don't be deceived. Many of you have your families and your homes in the Imperial Valley. If they introduce outside workers there, you and your families will have to suffer. Even though you might be willing to work and to accept the wage scale offered by the growers and shippers, the laborers from outside will, nevertheless, seize your work and you will then be in need.

This information is furnished you by experts who are interested in your welfare, while the paid organizers merely try to defraud you and to have you included in their lists.

Many of you have prospects of obtaining work. Accept it at once. Tomorrow it may be too late.

ATTENTION MEXICAN WORKERS:

Note the following exact copies of telegrams received by the Western Union and Postal Telegraph Co. The originals can be seen at the respective offices.

WESTERN UNION.

El Paso, Texas. 1103A. May 7, 1928.
Association of Growers and Shippers,
Brawley, California.

There is no limit to the number of workers whom we can send. There is no work here at the present time. People are anxious to go to the Imperial Valley if they can get work. Please note that we have now 800 men on the list. Can leave at short notice. Southern Pacific figures that they can be brought to Brawley in thirty-six hours. If you want more men, we can send 5000, if required.

Received, Employment Agent.

POSTAL TELEGRAPH-COMMERCIAL CABLE.

Phoenix, Ariz., May 7, 1928.
Association of Growers and Shippers,
Brawley, California.

At present we have about 900 men. They are ready to go to Imperial Valley. Southern Pacific has train ready to deliver the men at short notice.

I understand that you need them for Wednesday afternoon. You should give us definite advice on Tuesday afternoon. We will send them so as to be ready for work on Wednesday morning. We can obtain about 600 men more, if you give us one day's time.

Employment Agent.

In reply to these circulars, the Imperial Valley Workers' Union issued a circular warning the "companions" to be on guard against "knaves," and "Iscariots" and assuring striking cantaloupe pickers that "no workers will arrive from other parts."

Suspended Sentences in Exchange for Pleas of Guilty

When the arrests of the Mexican laborers started, Mr. Elmer Heald, the district attorney, made it clear that he would be willing to recommend suspended jail sentences for those who would voluntarily plead guilty.[14] Mr. Heald felt that he had sufficient evidence to convict the arrested laborers; that if they could be released it would save the county the expense of feeding them; and that if they did not behave after their release, it would be a relatively easy matter to return them to jail to serve their suspended sentences. In several cases, as shown in a foregoing section of this report, the defendants pleaded guilty and received the suspended sentences. I am inclined to believe that in these cases the defendants *did not* consider themselves guilty, but decided that, since they could not furnish the bail, it was best for them to accept the bargain offered by the county officials.

The trial of the thirty-three laborers was scheduled to take place on May 17th before F. T. Cook, justice of the peace of Westmoreland Township. But the prisoners were not brought into court. Mr. Law, a deputy district attorney, explained that Sheriff Gillett had to appear in a federal court in San Diego and that therefore they could not try the cases. He asked that the trial be put off for about ten days, because the district attorney's office was too busy to go to trial sooner. In the meantime, he asked the judge that the prisoners be kept in jail in default of bail. Mr. Blaisdell strongly objected to the failure of the sheriff to bring the prisoners into court and pointed to that fact as proof that the district attorney's office and the sheriff took it for granted that the court would grant the postponement. He asked that the prisoners be released on their own recognizances. The judge did not want the prisoners "to go out and raise hell," but neither was he inclined to feed them at the expense of the county. Mr. Law, the deputy district attorney, would not approve of the idea of the letting out of the prisoners on their own recognizances; however, he withdrew his objections to Mr. Blaisdell's motion. The judge then ruled in favor of the prisoners, and the trial was set for June 6, 1928.

Mr. Elmer Heald, the district attorney, was not pleased with the release of the laborers without bond. "If the judge would hold them on bail," Mr. Heald told me the day after the release of the prisoners, "they would enter pleas of guilty next day and would go to work and behave themselves. I instructed the deputy to insist on bail."

Conclusion

Mr. Gillett asserted, and several company officials alleged, that radicals and "reds" were directing the strike of the cantaloupe pickers and were causing dissatisfaction among them. But I could find no tangible evidence to support this view. Certainly, the fact that the union officials sought to enlist the Chambers of Commerce as their go-between does not lend credence to this theory.

However, with the exception of the subdued anxiety and interest which hovers about the pending trials of the thirty-three men, released on their own recognizances, and of the pending trials of Abraham Perez, Felix Rodriquez, his wife Francisca Rodriquez, Tomas Rodriquez, and Juan Barcelo, things are now relatively quiet in the Imperial Valley. The growers, of course, would not deal with the union,

[14] On May 14th, I was present at a conference between Messrs. Clarence Smith, deputy district attorney, Charles L. Gillett, sheriff, Alfred Blaisdell, attorney for the defendants, and Hermolao E. Torres, vice consul of Mexico. At this conference Mr. Smith repeated the offer of the district attorney to recommend sixty days suspended jail sentence if the same forty incarcerated laborers would plead guilty. The offer was not accepted by Messrs. Blaisdell and Torres. Their counter suggestion was to the effect that the district attorney release the innocent prisoners and that he try only those who were actually guilty, if there were such men in jail. There was no bargain made at this conference.

although most of them decided to pay the 15 cents per standard crate, as demanded by the union.

But, although the incident of the strike is over, the major issues involved in the strike remain. Further consideration must be given to the requests of the Mexican laborers: (1) for better housing conditions; (2) for safeguards against defaulting contractors, and (3) for proper insurance under the Workmen's Compensation, Insurance and Safety Act of the State of California.

Mr. Elmer Heald, who, as district attorney, handled many cases of defaulting labor contractors, expressed his opinion to the effect that the contract system must go. He felt that the growers must find a way of protecting the wages earned by their pickers and other laborers. If the agreement, which permits the contractor to withhold 20 or 25 per cent from the laborers' wages is illegal, that portion of the contract should be changed or amended, or, else, the amount withheld should be deposited in the bank, as requested by the Mexican laborers. These matters deserve the immediate and serious attention on the part of the employers of labor in the Imperial Valley. Working conditions which give rise to real and justifiable grievances can not be remedied by rough threats of deportation or by smooth talk of loyalty to the employers in exchange for past favors. Better future amicable relations between the growers and their laborers will be assured only by directing attention to the fundamental causes of the strike, rather than by resorting to the easier expedient of hurling time-worn and ineffective accusations of radicalism and red propagandism.

Respectfully submitted.

(Signed) Louis Bloch, Statistician,
Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement,
Department of Industrial Relations.

THE ATTITUDE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

On May 31, 1928, Mr. Louis Bloch handed the preceding report on the strike to Mr. Elmer Heald, the district attorney of Imperial County. On the same day, after reading the report, Mr. Heald, in an interview with Mr. Bloch, said the following regarding his own position during the strike.

Mr. Heald felt that while the report was on the whole correct and accurate as to details, it gave the erroneous impression that the district attorney's office was unreasonable in its conduct during the labor troubles described in the report. "I told you," said Mr. Heald, "that I had nothing against the Mexicans organizing; that they had a perfect right to form a union and demand more wages from their employers. I told this to the organizers of the union who came to my office, and I made my position in the matter quite clear to them." It was the intention of the district attorney's office, according to Mr. Heald, to prevent possible violence or bloodshed as a result of the strike. The cantaloupe pickers use knives in their work, and he was afraid that these knives might be used against one another if the strike would assume violent proportions. Mr. Heald told the Mexicans who came to his office that they had a right to strike, but that they had to move off the employer's property if they did not want to work for the employer, and that they had no right whatever to interfere with the men who wished to work. He denied also that he had given any encouragement to Sheriff Gillett to arrest Mexican laborers indiscriminately. Mr. Heald said that he had no hand whatever in the arrest of the thirty-three Mexicans in Westmoreland and Brawley—he knew nothing of their arrest until he saw them in jail through his office window. The sheriff acted on his own initiative in this connection, and the sheriff did not ask the advice of the district attorney before arresting these Mexicans.

Mr. Heald said that he could have convicted Frank Hernandez, but that he recommended a suspended sentence for him because he wanted to be lenient with him. He said that Frank Hernandez was known to be all over the valley during the strike. He ran about between Westmoreland and Brawley and was on all ranches instigating trouble.

Mr. Heald repeated that it was his policy to be lenient with all those who volunteered to plead guilty, because he was interested primarily in preventing threatened violence and possible bloodshed.

In this interview Mr. Heald again stated his belief that something should be done to rectify the present iniquitous provisions of the labor contract. He said that he would be willing to cooperate with the Department of Industrial Relations to the full extent in preventing abuses which arise as a result of the present labor contract prevalent in the Imperial Valley.

DISMISSAL OF CHARGES

The trial of the thirty-three Mexican laborers, released on their own recognizances on May 17th, by Justice Cook of Westmoreland, which was set for June 6, 1928, did not take place because, several days before the trial, the district attorney recommended to Justice Cook that the charges against the defendants be dismissed, to which the justice readily assented. This disposed of all cases of arrest which followed the formation of the Mexican labor union in the Imperial Valley and the subsequent undeveloped strike of cantaloupe pickers.

THE REVISION OF THE PICKING AGREEMENT

The principal complaint of the cantaloupe pickers, as was seen in the foregoing report, was against the provisions of the picking agreement under which 25 per cent of the wages earned by them were withheld until the end of the picking season and under which the labor contractor, not the grower, was responsible for the wages of the laborers. These are the provisions of the picking agreement in the Imperial Valley, and of agricultural labor contracts in other places in California, which have caused dissatisfaction and loss of wages among Mexican and other agricultural laborers in California.

Since the California laws relating to payment of wages provide that wages must be paid in full at least twice a month,[15] the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement of the Department of Industrial Relations undertook to enlist the cooperation of the growers of the Imperial Valley in its effort to change these provisions of the picking agreement. Accordingly, the Division called a mass meeting of growers of the Imperial Valley. This meeting was held in the court house at El Centro on December 13, 1928. It was presided over by Mr. Elmer Heald, the district attorney of Imperial County. Mr. Walter G. Mathewson, Chief of the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement, explained to the growers who were present at the meeting the labor law requirements regarding payment of wages and the necessity of changing the picking agreement in conformity with the law. The

[15] Wages may be paid only once a month if board and lodging is furnished to employees.

growers' meeting expressed themselves as being in favor of modifying the picking agreement to meet with the desires of the Department of Industrial Relations.

The meeting elected a committee of five growers, Messrs. Fred R. Bright, J. P. Carter, A. N. Jack, L. C. Seibert, and George Swink, to cooperate with the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement in the preparation of a substitute picking agreement which would do away with the objectionable provisions of the picking agreement then in use.

This committee of growers, together with Louis Bloch, statistician for the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement, held several conferences and formulated a new "Standard Picking Agreement" in lieu of the former picking agreement. It was agreed by the committee of growers that it would not be obligatory upon all growers in the Imperial Valley to use the same uniform "Standard Picking Agreement," but that all picking agreements used would conform to the following five principles adopted by the committee:

1. Under the present picking agreement it has been the custom to withhold from wages earned 25 or more per cent to guarantee the completion of the agreement, and the picking of the melons. This practice shall be discontinued hereafter. Instead, wages will be paid weekly after proper deductions are made for all advances made for material, supplies, and necessaries of life.

2. The full price to be paid for the various kinds of melons shall be specified in the contract. But in addition and apart from the wages to be paid for picking, the grower will offer a *bonus* of not exceeding one cent for each packed standard, pony and jumbo crate of cantaloupes and one-half cent for each packed flat crate of cantaloupes and each packed crate of Honey Dews accepted by the grower.

3. This *bonus* will be paid at the discretion of the grower at the end of the season and will be prorated among all laborers who complied with the contract according to their respective earnings under the contract during the season.

4. The grower, *not the contractor*, shall assume full responsibility for the payment of all wages earned under the contract.

5. The grower shall continue to be the sole and exclusive judge as to the sufficiency of the number of laborers employed under the agreement, as to the full and complete fulfillment of the contract, and as to the proper workmanship of the laborers performing the work under the agreement.

The "Standard Picking Agreement" adopted by the committee of growers which embodies the five principles just enumerated, was approved by the Department of Industrial Relations in the following letter:

December 28, 1928.

Mr. A. N. Jack, Chairman,
Growers' Committee for the Revision of the Picking Agreement,
Jack Bros. & McBurney Co.,
Brawley, California.

Dear Sir:

This is to advise you that the STANDARD PICKING AGREEMENT worked out by the committee of five growers elected at the mass meeting held in the superior court room, and submitted to us through our Dr. Louis Bloch, in El Centro, on December 13, 1928, meets with the approval of the Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement of the Department of Industrial Relations because it does away with the provisions of the Picking Agreement heretofore used under which growers withheld from contractors certain percentages of the weekly payments, thereby causing the contractors to withhold wages from laborers in violation of the California payment of wages laws, and because under the STANDARD PICKING AGREEMENT,

the growers, not the contractors, will pay to the laborers all wages earned under the agreement.

Thanking you for your cooperation in this matter, I remain,

Yours very truly,

(Signed) WALTER G. MATHEWSON,
Chief of Division of Labor Statistics and Law Enforcement,
Department of Industrial Relations.

Approved by: (Signed) WILL J. FRENCH, Director,
Department of Industrial Relations.

Copies to:

Messrs. L. C. Seibert,
George Swink,
Fred R. Bright,
George Carter.

FUTURE LABOR RELATIONS

The revision of the labor contract in the Imperial Valley by removing the clauses which frequently resulted in wage losses by Mexican and other laborers in the valley, should bring about better labor relations between the growers and their workers. Much depends upon the general recognition and adoption by the growers of the Imperial Valley of the value of the Standard Picking Agreement which seeks to safeguard the earnings of their agricultural laborers.

There are already several influential larger growers in the Imperial Valley who did away entirely with the labor contractor and who hire their Mexican laborers without the intervention of any labor agent. These growers find that best results and better labor relations can be secured by dealing directly with their own laborers, instead of through a middleman or a labor contractor. There are also many large growers in the Imperial Valley who carry workmen's compensation insurance for their agricultural laborers and who feel that that is better policy than is the policy of applying for exemption under the workmen's compensation law.

The Mexican Mutual Aid Society of Imperial Valley, Inc., which is the union of Mexican laborers, was not done away with by the arresting of strikers, or would-be strikers, during the labor trouble described in this chapter. This union now (April, 1929) has offices in Brawley, and it seems to have the support of the Mexican agricultural workers of Imperial County. Its principal objectives, according to the pronouncements of its officials, appear to be the bettering and safeguarding of wages, the securing of the benefits of the workmen's compensation law, and the improving of housing conditions. No doubt, any progress made by the growers themselves in these matters will lead in the direction of stable and satisfactory labor relations in the Imperial Valley.

Part III

LABOR NEEDS IN CALIFORNIA CROP PRODUCTION

With

PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE MEXICAN

(Prepared by the Department of Agriculture)

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INTRODUCTION

This report entitled "Labor Needs in California Crop Production with Particular Reference to the Mexican" is in answer to a request made upon the College of Agriculture, University of California, in May, 1928, by Mr. George H. Hecke, Director of Agriculture, State Department of Agriculture, in his capacity as a member of a committee appointed by Governor C. C. Young to study the Mexican situation. This request was concurred in and emphasized by R. N. Wilson of the California Development Board, R. H. Taylor of the California Legislative Committee and Alex. Johnson of the California Farm Bureau Federation.

The contents of this report are largely a compilation of information obtained from many personal interviews and several hundred lengthy questionnaires. The scope of the study was confined to the economic influence and need of Mexican labor and its effect upon agriculture. The social aspects, and the needs for and effect upon industries other than agriculture was eliminated from this study. The inquiry was carefully planned and extensively conducted.

These data indicate a number of pertinent findings, these being set forth on the succeeding pages of this report.

Manual Labor Needs of California Crop Enterprises.

To provide the necessary labor for handling soils; caring for trees, vines, and bushes; caring for growing crops; harvesting of the final crops; and for other details incident to a production of an annual output estimated at over eleven million tons of field, fruit, and truck crops valued at more than $474,000,000, necessitates the employing of tens of thousands of men, women, and children. Growers augment the work of themselves and their families by hiring a veritable army of hands. They tap all available supplies of workers willing and able to do the different tasks involved in so great a farm production. This means use of white workers, of Mexicans and Japanese, of Filipinos, Porto Ricans, Chinese, Negroes, East Indians, American Indians, Armenians, Portuguese, Italians, Greeks, and on through a long list of races and nationalities.

The amount of manual labor required to produce California crops can be measured by combining:

a. Acreages of crops.
b. Rate of work for different operations.

Tables 1 and 2 are indicative of the acreages of California's more important crops and the manual labor needs in connection therewith.

In addition to the crops listed in Table 1 labor is also required in the production of other crops. Labor is likewise needed for many

special farm operations, such as preparing products for market (sorting, wrapping and packing, cleaning, resacking, etc.) details of which are not listed here.

Table 2 is an indication of the amount of man labor required to handle specified details of production and harvest for a number of crops. This table, compiled from data collected over a period of years by workers in Farm Management, shows total man labor requirements (in man-days—"M.D." in the table) for the crops specified and operations indicated without reference to whether the work is done by owner, tenant, members of the operator's family, by exchange with neighbors, or through the hiring of labor. Crops and operations have been chosen, however, for which much labor is hired, this labor including Mexicans, Filipinos, Porto Ricans, Japanese, East Indians, Negroes, etc., as well as white. The data are for mature plantings. They show total man labor needs amounting to thousands of man-days for the operations listed. The listing does not include pruning and other care of small fruits, or harvesting small fruits. It does not include a vast amount of man labor needed to plant and care for young orchards, new plantings of alfalfa, hops, asparagus, rhubarb, and other perennial plantings, nor all operations incident to the proper production of the different products listed below. It omits tractor and truck work, and teamsters' work.

TABLE 1. ACREAGE OF CALIFORNIA CROPS

Classification	*Acres**		*Classification*	*Acres**	
Deciduous tree fruits (Mature Orchards)		706,159	Truck crops		347,330
Almonds	84,445		Artichokes	9,940	
Apples	57,106		Asparagus	58,380	
Apricots	80,710		Beans (green)	3,570	
Cherries	11,521		Cabbage	6,400	
Peaches	141,936		Carrots	3,250	
Pears	56,515		Cauliflower	8,950	
Plums	33,458		Celery	8,850	
Prunes	165,161		Cucumbers	2,120	
Walnuts	75,307		Lettuce	76,410	
Subtropical fruits (Mature Orchards)		307,471	Melons		
Avocados	708		Cantaloupes	45,720	
Dates	893		Watermelons	9,780	
Figs	45,132		Onions	9,750	
Grapefruit	6,223		Peas (green)	27,500	
Lemons	43,179		Rhubarb	1,200	
Olives	25,445		Spinach	12,200	
Oranges	185,891		Sweet potatoes	12,000	
Grapes (Mature Vineyards)		660,526	Tomatoes	51,510	
Juice grapes	169,017		Field crops		1,909,725
Raisin grapes	346,985		Alfalfa	1,001,000	
Table grapes	144,524		Bean (dry field)	296,000	
Small fruits			Corn (Indian)	77,000	
Blackberries	Acreage		Cotton	128,000	
Currants	data not		Hops	6,000	
Loganberries	obtainable		Peppers	3,725	
Raspberries			Potatoes	52,000	
Strawberries	3,750		Rice	160,000	
			Sorghums (grain)	130,000	
			Sugar beets	56,000	

* Most of these data are from "California Crop Report—1927" U. S. D. A. and State Dept. of Agriculture cooperating.

TABLE 2. RATE OF WORK AND LABOR REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIED CROPS AND OPERATIONS

(M. D. means Man Day—the amount of work one man can do in nine hours.)

Pruning orchards—	*Number trees*	*Work per m.d.*	*Total number of m.d.*
Almonds	6,755,000	120 trees	56,200
Apples	3,768,996	20 trees	188,400
Apricots	6,457,000	25 trees	258,300

			Work per m.d.	Total number of m.d.
Pruning orchards—	*Number trees*			
Cherries	922,000		160 trees	5,700
Figs	1,805,280		60 trees	30,000
Grapefruit	560,000		90 trees	6,400
Lemons	3,454,000		30 trees	115,100
Oranges	16,730,000		50 trees	334,600
Olives	1,526,700		20 trees	76,000
Peaches	14,000,000		35 trees	405,500
Pears	5,600,000		25 trees	224,000
Plums	2,676,000		40 trees	66,900
Prunes	11,561,000		30 trees	385,400
Walnuts	1,280,000		15 trees	85,300
	Number vines			
Pruning vineyards	372,000,000		300 vines	1,240,000
Collecting and burning brush—	*Acres*			
Orchards	1,013,992		1 acre	1,014,000
Vineyards	658,528		5 acres	131,700
Planting cantaloupes	45,720		5 acres	9,140
Planting celery	8,850		4/10 acre	22,125
Planting lettuce	76,410		2½ acres	30,500
Planting onions (seed)	9,750		1 acre	9,750
Planting sweet potatoes	12,000		⅔ acre	18,000
Planting tomatoes	51,510		1,000 plants	51,500
Weeding onions	9,750		½ acre	78,000
Chopping cotton	128,000		20 acres	64,000
Thinning and push hoeing lettuce	76,410		½ acre	152,800
Thinning sugar beets	56,000		¼ acre	112,000
Hoeing beans	296,000		6 acres	49,300
Hoeing corn and sorghums	207,000		10 acres	20,700
Hoeing cotton	128,000		5 acres	25,600
Hoeing rhubarb	12,000		½ acre	6,000
	Tonnage			
Shocking hay	5,624,000	tons	10 tons	562,400
Harvesting almonds	12,000	tons	300 lbs.	80,000
Picking apples	186,000	tons	3,000 lbs.	124,000
Picking apricots	208,000	tons	1,200 lbs.	430,000
Picking cherries	12,000	tons	150 lbs.	160,000
Picking peaches	427,000	tons	1,600 lbs.	53,300
Picking pears	181,000	tons	1 ton	181,000
Picking plums	57,000	tons	--	------
Picking up prunes	203,000	tons	1,500 lbs.	266,600
Harvesting walnuts	48,500	tons	400 lbs.	242,500
Picking dates	3,200	tons	225 lbs.	28,500
Picking figs	12,000	tons	600 lbs.	40,000
Picking lemons	243,000	tons	1,750 lbs.	277,000
Picking olives	15,500	tons	300 lbs.	103,000
Picking oranges and grapefruit	812,000	tons	1½ tons	541,000
Picking grapes (juice)	473,000	tons	1½ tons	315,200
Picking grapes (raisin)	285,000	tons	½ tons dry basis	570,000
Picking grapes (table)	651,000	tons	1 ton	651,000
Cutting asparagus	71,800	tons	400 lbs.	359,000
Pulling, trimming, sorting and packing celery	1,328,000	California crates	14 crates	97,700
Picking cucumbers	8,087	tons	--	------
Field harvesting of lettuce	402,000	tons	1 ton	402,000
Picking cantaloupes	7,557,000	standard crates	40 crates	188,900
Picking watermelons	62,892	tons	4 tons	13,200
Pulling, topping and sacking onions	79,200	tons	5 tons	13,800
Picking peas (market)	34,200	tons	250 lbs.	249,600
Picking, washing and packing rhubarb	2,400,000	boxes	12 boxes	200,000
Picking up sweet potatoes	32,400	tons	1¼ tons	25,900
Picking tomatoes	225,600	tons	1 ton	225,600
Picking cotton	43,547,000	lbs.	200 lbs.	217,700
Picking hops	9,900,000	lbs.	250 lbs.	39,600
Picking up potatoes	238,600	tons	3 tons	79,500
Shocking rice	268,800	tons	8 tons	33,600
Cutting grain sorghum heads	121,680	acres	¾ acre	162,200
Pulling, topping and loading sugar beets	449,000	acres	6 tons	74,800

The last column of Table 2 indicates something of the need of California crop producers for labor including "common labor" a term

which is used to designate the class of help used for such tasks as thinning fruit, picking fruit, hoeing and chopping of cotton; picking cotton; hoeing and thinning of sugar beets; pulling, topping and loading of sugar beets; thinning onions; harvesting and topping onions; picking corn, gathering lettuce, cauliflower, cabbage, etc., etc.

The amount of common labor which *must be hired,* summarized from 1320 questionnaires returned by farm operators, was as follows:

Total acreage reported 406,447 acres.

Acreage—crops requiring hand labor 301,659 acres (74+per cent).

Workers employed regularly 178,775 man months (a man month being the equivalent to one man employed for one month).

Workers employed at "peak" periods 98,759 man months (55.2 per cent of regular needs).

In other words the regular needs of this group of farm operators call for the equivalent of 14,900 men the year around, plus peak needs equivalent to 16,450 men for six months. By comparing the acreage given by this group with total acreages for the state as shown above, some idea can be got of the vast amount of man-power needed by California farmers.

Need for Labor Fluctuates During Year.

The need for farm labor by California farm operators fluctuates during the year. This is due to the seasonal nature of many of the operations incident to the production of most crops of high man-labor requirements. There are certain time limits within which the work must be done. This applies to pruning, to spraying, to planting time, to soil handling, and particularly to the harvesting of perishable crops, truck and fruit being heavily represented in the list of perishables.

This point is illustrated in the following table of selected operations showing the time limits (generally for the state) when these tasks must be performed in order to insure best results:

Pruning deciduous fruit and nut trees	December, January, February
Pruning citrus trees (Valencia oranges and lemons	May, June; August, September
Pruning citrus trees (Navel oranges and grapefruit)	February, March, April
Pruning olive trees	December, January, February
Pruning bush fruits	July, August, September, October
Pruning grapes	December, January, February
Planting cantaloupes and other melons:	
Imperial Valley	December, January, February, March
Other sections	March, April, May
Planting celery	June, July
Planting beans	April, May
Planting cotton	March, April
Planting onions	November to April (inclusive)
Planting sweet potatoes	April, May, June
Planting sugar beets	January, February, March
Planting tomatoes	April, May
Chopping cotton	May, June
Thinning peaches and apricots	April
Thinning sugar beets	March, April, May
Picking currants	May, June
Harvesting almonds	August 20 to September 30
Picking apricots	June, July
Picking cherries	May 15 to June 30
Picking peaches	August, September

Picking pears	August 15 to 31, September
Picking plums	May, June, July
Picking up prunes	August 15 to September 30
Picking grapes	July, August, September
Picking olives	May, June, July, August, September, October
Picking lemons	July, August, September
Picking oranges (bulk of picking)	November 15 to December, January, February, March, April, May 15
Harvesting walnuts	September, October
Picking cotton	September, October, November, December, January
Picking hops	August 15 to September
Harvesting potatoes	July; September, October
Harvesting rice	September, October, November 1 to 15
Harvesting grain sorghums	September, October
Harvesting sugar beets	August, September, October
Cutting asparagus	February 15, March, April, May, June, July
Harvesting celery	November, December, January
Harvesting cucumbers	July, August, September
Picking peas	March, April, May
Harvesting cantaloupes:	
Imperial Valley	May, June, July 1 to 20
Other sections	July, August
Harvesting melons other than cantaloupes:	
Imperial Valley	May, June, July, August
Other sections	July 15 to 30, August, September, October
Harvesting sweet potatoes	August, September, October, November
Picking tomatoes	July, August, September, October

Data gleaned from 768 questionnaires covering employment amounting to 88,275 man months and tabulated by months shows the distribution of labor needs over a year period. Classification of this labor by months (measured as man months; that is, one man employed for one month constitutes one man month; thus if three men are employed for two months the use amounts to six man months; if two men are employed for three months and one man for twelve months the use amounts to 18 man months):

	Use of labor	
	Man months	*Pctg. of total*
January	3,627	4.1
February	3,764	4.3
March	6,601	7.5
April	6,370	7.2
May	7,716	8.7
June	7,479	8.4
July	11,700	13.2
August	8,178	9.3
September	12,733	14.5
October	8,852	10.0
November	6,951	7.9
December	4,304	4.9

It is evident, from these data, that the slack need for men occurs in December, January, and February. The need in March, April May and June, and in November, is over 90 per cent greater than in the slack time. The period of greatest need is July, August, September, and October, with nearly three times the need of the slack period. September is outstanding in its requirement of farm labor.

Extent of Employment of Farm Labor (Other Than White).

In order to collect data concerning the use by California farmers of farm labor other than white workers, a questionnaire was submitted to 5166 farm operators in all parts of California. The inquiry was designed to develop information concerning the use of Mexicans, Filipinos, Porto Ricans, Japanese, East Indians, Chinese, and Negroes.

The lists of names to whom this questionnaire was submitted were drawn from the membership lists of the various agricultural cooperative associations in the state, supplemented by carefully selected lists of representative growers for products not covered by cooperative organizations. In addition to the canvass of farm operators, questionnaires were submitted to 92 secretaries of California Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade; to 50 Horticultural Commissioners belonging to the agricultural counties; to 460 chairmen of the various farm centers of the California Farm Bureau Federation; and to 42 presidents of the County Farm Bureaus. From a total of 1395 replies from farmers, 55 replies from secretaries of Chambers of Commerce and Boards of Trade, 27 replies from Horticultural Commissioners, and 143 replies from presidents and chairmen of California Farm Bureau Federation farm centers, supplemented by field studies, it is possible to obtain a rather definite idea of the extent to which these people are used.

The returns from 1320 farm operators apply to a total of 458,357 acres, including the following table:

TABLE 3. CLASSIFICATION OF CROP ENTERPRISES OF 1320 FARM OPERATORS REPORTING USE OF FARM LABOR

	Acres		Acres		Acres
Deciduous tree fruits		83,871	Field crops		124,493
Almonds	14,142		Alfalfa	15,470	
Apples	1,021		Beans	19,090	
Apricots	3,686		Corn (maize and sorghums)	3,059	
Cherries	442		Cotton	11,740	
Figs	1,448		Grain (barley, wheat, oats)	48,846	
Nectarines	25		Hay (other than alfalfa)	5,754	
Peaches	15,255		Hops	30	
Pears	5,650		Potatoes	1,075	
Plums	829		Rice	19,085	
Prunes	13,467		Sugar beets	344	
Walnuts	8,485				
Walnuts (not differentiated)	19,421				
Subtropical fruits		116,825	Truck crops		38,187
Avocados	3,147		Asparagus	9,250	
Dates	709		Lettuce	4,909	
Grapefruit	4,436		Melons	6,567	
Lemons	26,705		Onions	458	
Olives	1,531		Tomatoes	411	
Oranges	80,297		Miscellaneous (not differentiated)	16,592	
Grapes		28,699			
Small fruits		43	Miscellaneous		49,586
Bush fruits	23		Nursery stock	7	
Strawberries	20		Pasture	36,848	
			Others	12,731	

Extent of Employment According to Questionnaire Returns from Farm Operators.

Of 1287 returns giving data concerning employment, 27 stated that they hired no help, while 330 more stated that they used none of the groups under consideration; *i. e.*, Mexicans, Filipinos, Japanese Chinese, Porto Ricans, East Indians, and Negroes. The number employing some one or more of these groups was 930.

The replies from these 930 employing farm operators indicated use of the different groups as follows:

Mexicans by 814 operators
Japanese by 247 operators
Filipinos by 194 operators
Chinese by 52 operators
East Indians by 48 operators
Negroes by 35 operators
Porto Ricans by 18 operators

Use of Farm Labor Other Than White Workers According to Locality.

The greatest use of labor (other than white) is shown in the following table, made up from 891 records:

TABLE 4. USE OF FARM LABOR OTHER THAN WHITE, GROUPED ACCORDING TO LOCALITY, ACCORDING TO PERCENTAGE OF REPLIES

	Number of reports	Mexican	Porto Rican	Chinese	Negro	Filipino	Japanese	Hindu
Imperial and Coachella Valleys	27	75	0	0	11	7	7	0
Southern California	405	84	*	2	*	6	5	2
Central Coast	134	47	6	6	0	18	21	1
Northern Coast	87	36	3	14	2	15	28	2
Sacramento Valley	196	32	*	6	2	18	29	12
San Joaquin Valley	503	56	*	3	4	17	17	2
Mountain and Desert	27	21	0	3	0	15	29	32

* Less than 1%.

Attention is called to the extent that Mexicans are used in the Imperial and Coachella valleys and in southern California generally. The negro is second. The use of labor in the Coast sections and the San Joaquin Valley shows that Japanese are a close second to Mexicans, with a generous use of Filipinos (in third place), and some use of Chinese. The Sacramento Valley shows a greater use of Japanese than is reported for any of the other sections except the mountain and desert (the small number of records, however, limiting the usefulness of this data pertaining to this area). In the Sacramento Valley the use of Japanese is second only to the Mexicans, while the use of Hindus shows a marked gain.

The locality classification as used in these various tables is arbitrary and as follows:

1. Imperial and Coachella valleys, consisting of Imperial County and the Coachella Valley in Riverside County.

2. Southern California, consisting of the counties of Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino (eastern portion), Riverside County (eastern portion), and San Diego.

3. Central Coast counties; *i. e.,* Contra Costa, Alameda, Santa Clara, San Benito, Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Luis Obispo.

4. Northern Coast counties; *i. e.,* Marin, Napa, Solano, Sonoma, Mendocino, Humboldt, and Trinity.

5. Sacramento Valley, consisting of Shasta, Tehama, Glenn, Butte, Colusa, Sutter, Yolo, Yuba, and Sacramento counties.

6. San Joaquin Valley, consisting of San Joaquin, Stanislaus, Merced, Madera, Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and Kern counties.

7. The mountainous or desert counties; *i. e.,* Placer, El Dorado, Inyo, Mono, Mariposa, Amador, Alpine, Calaveras, Sierra, Plumas, Lassen, Modoc, Siskiyou, and Nevada.

Use of Farm Labor Other Than White According to Type of Business.

The greatest dependence on labor, other than white, in the production of crops is placed upon Mexicans. This is shown in percentages in the following table (based on 933 records):

	Number of records	Mexican	Porto Rican	Chinese	Negro	Filipino	Japanese	Hindu
Deciduous fruit	628	51%	2%	5%	2%	15%	21%	4%
Grapes	506	55%	*	5%	2%	13%	20%	4%
Citrus fruits	220	76%	*	2%	1%	12%	7%	1%
Field crops	459	60%	1%	5%	4%	12%	14%	4%
Truck crops	45	63%	0	2%	2%	14%	15%	4%
Diversified	129	61%	3%	3%	2%	16%	9%	6%
Nuts	174	71%	*	2%	2%	8%	16%	1%

* Less than 1%.

In the industries set forth above answers to our questionnaires indicate that the use of Mexicans is particularly marked in the production and care of citrus fruits and orchards, and of nuts and nut trees, and in the production of truck and field crops. The use of Japanese is greatest in the production of deciduous fruits, including nuts and grapes, and in truck and field crops. The use of Filipinos is fairly well distributed over the entire field of agriculture. The use of Chinese is in the deciduous fruit, and in the grape and field crop enterprises. The use of Porto Ricans, Negroes, and Hindus is here too slight to warrant analysis.

Use of Farm Labor Other Than White Labor According to Size of Business.

A study of labor (other than white) classified according to the size of the farm business is shown as percentages in the tabulating below of 891 records:

Size of farm	Number of records	Mexican	Porto Rican	Chinese	Negro	Filipino	Japanese	Hindu
5–19 acres	86	75%	1%	2%	1%	4%	17%	0%
20–39 acres	193	71%	1%	4%	*	9%	14%	*
40–79 acres	229	63%	1%	2%	2%	13%	17%	2%
80 acres and over	875	53%	2%	4%	2%	16%	18%	5%

* Less than 1%.

According to these data use of Mexicans is proportionally greater on the smaller-sized farms. Next to Mexicans the Japanese are employed the greatest number of times irrespective of farm size. Use of the Filipino tends to increase as the size of the farm business increases. It is somewhat remarkable, the rapidity with which the employment of the Filipino increased with the size of the business; and, conversely, the small amount of his employment by operators on small acreages. The use of Porto Rican, Chinese, Negro, and Hindu labor, while relatively unimportant, is largely confined to the large holdings.

Employers' Use of Different Groups for Specific Tasks.

Employers who have had experience with several sorts of labor find that different tasks can ofttimes be best performed by different groups. Thus our field inquiries developed that a number of sugar beet growers prefer Filipinos for thinning, and Mexicans for pulling, topping, and loading; some rice growers prefer white labor for binding, but Mexicans or East Indians for shocking; some almond growers will use

Mexicans for hoeing and weeding but prefer whites in the harvest; orchardists tend to favor Mexicans for picking, but Japanese for pruning; grape growers give Mexicans as their first choice for picking, with Japanese a second and Filipinos a third choice; for pruning, grape men place Japanese first; the great majority of citrus growers prefer Mexicans for picking; one tomato grower prefers Japanese in growing the plants but Filipinos for picking; one orchardist selects whites for picking apricots but Mexicans for knocking almonds; another employer uses Mexicans for teaming, irrigating, and harvesting corn and fruit, but employs Japanese for pruning orchard trees and packing fruit; another prefers Mexicans for grapes and figs and whites for drying peaches; another prefers whites for teaming, tray work, and pruning, but uses Mexicans for hoeing and piling beans and for general ranch work; another uses Negroes for teaming, tractor, and general land work, with Mexicans for picking walnuts, oranges, and lemons; another uses Mexicans for orange picking and Japanese for olive harvest. Carrying this study forward another step, it is interesting to note the use of different classes, Stanislaus County growers appear to favor Mexicans, Porto Ricans, or Filipinos, for thinning peaches, and picking peaches and grapes, but prefer Japanese for melon work; in Santa Clara County Japanese are preferred as laborers for seed farms.

Employers' Conception of Satisfactory Labor.

The preceding paragraphs have shown the need of an available labor supply able and willing to do the work essential to industry and crop production. What, now, do employers consider satisfactory labor to be?

The specifications that follow come from many employers. No order is observed, since views differ and the half dozen outstanding requirements of one employer will not be the half dozen of another. Employers do not agree upon any single type of labor as best, because the individual employer's opinion reflects all his own contacts, demands, ideals, capacity for sympathy and charitableness, command of funds, experience of the worker's attitude towards fellow-workers, etc., and between no two employers are such factors just the same in either kind or degree.

The following list is, however, suggestive:

1. Willingness to take wages employer feels he can pay.

   The farmer recognizes differences of wage scale as between the farm, railroad maintenance of way and car-cleaning, warehouse jobs, unskilled and semiskilled town jobs, road, logging, and construction camps, and the like. What he must pay is governed in part by wages prevailing in industries competing in the same labor market as his own; what he can pay is governed by the size of his business, *i.e.*, by the amount of production he can obtain with his knowledge and equipment. And his production in turn is influenced heavily by weather, pests, and other factors beyond his control, by the prices at which he must sell, and by the proportion of gross income that he can afford to pay for labor.

2. Willingness to put up with the housing provided.

Employers of large numbers for some short period, *e. g.*, two weeks to two months, feel unable to supply living quarters as durable and otherwise satisfactory as they could if their labor need were year-long. Others think employees do not in general appreciate better housing enough to warrant such investments.

3. Willingness to accept the board furnished.
4. Ability to do the work, to "deliver;" skill in operations; in short, dependability.
5. Physical capacity, physical adequacy for the job.
6. Freedom from communicable disease.
7. Willingness to do the job set.
8. Some initiative.
9. Morality—at least to the safeguarding of women and children.
10. If a married man, a wife to fit in with the ranch group.
11. Kindness to animals.
12. Carefulness with equipment.
13. Loyalty.
14. Willingness to stick until the work or season is done.
15. A labor market as cheap as possible with respect to cash wages.
16. A supply great enough to make for quick replacements without undue interference with the progress of the job.
17. Availability.

Farm Operators' Reasons for Using Labor Other Than White.

The dozen predominating reasons why farm operators employ Mexican, Filipino, Japanese, etc., in place of white labor are as follows, the number indicating times that the particular reply was given:

Available	328 times
Dependable	119 times
Not enough white help	60 times
Work at tasks repugnant to white workers	55 times
Better workers	42 times
Stay with job	37 times
More satisfactory	33 times
Cheaper	24 times
Steady	19 times
More efficient	16 times
Stand heat better	14 times
Willing	11 times

Other reasons advanced, though only in limited numbers, once, twice, or up to a dozen times, center on such things as that they board selves, house selves, furnish own transportation, are more reasonable, seek work, work Sundays, mind own affairs, follow instructions, are not liable to strike, are better adapted, take short period jobs, are tractable, intelligent, and industrious.

Thus the employers who favor the use of groups other than white labor find in them a closer approach to five outstanding requirements that employers have constantly in mind, these being:

Availability.
Capability.
Dependability.
Tractability.
Economicalness.

Employers' Experiences With White Labor for Work Now Being Done by Mexicans, Filipinos, Etc.

A compilation of the experiences of employing farm operators with white labor doing work for which Mexicans, Filipinos, and others of the groups under study are frequently hired, covers a wide variety of reasons for preferring the nonwhite groups. Conspicuous is the objection that white labor will not stay with the job—that it is given to leaving at any time, owing, as many believe, to a roving disposition. Fully 25 per cent of the various reasons advanced center in this one thing alone. Closely associated, in number of times advanced, is the statement that white labor is unsatisfactory because it is inefficient, shiftless, slow, lazy and unreliable. Nearly 25 per cent of the views so state. And of those nearly half add that the Mexicans or Japanese, or some other indicated group, is superior in their workmanship and general satisfactoriness. The next reason, in order of numbers of times advanced, is the difficulty of getting white labor when needed. Ten per cent of the reasons stress nonavailability. In the experience of 10 per cent of the employers, white labor is unable to, or will not, do "stoop" labor, usually because of the nature of the work but at times because of heat or other adverse working conditions. Five per cent find white labor too costly.

Other reasons advanced cover: bad habits; unwillingness to follow instructions; more exacting as to working and living conditions; sensitive; tend to "stir up trouble," and liable to strike when employer needs all the help he can get.

Farm Operators' Reasons for Not Using Groups Other Than White.

Farm operators who hire men give the following reasons for *not* employing these groups. (We present this, like the above set of reasons, merely to show what farmers are thinking, without any attempt on our part to draw conclusions):

Sufficient white help	119 times
Prefer white men	62 times
White help superior	21 times
Not available	16 times
Dislike them	16 times
Do not need them	13 times
Thieving	12 times
Inability to comprehend	10 times

Other reasons, given a few times, center on such items as: ignorant, require close supervision, poor workers, lazy, unhygienic, dirty, less faithful, lack interest, clannish, tend to create friction with white workers.

Preference of Farm Operators for Various Kinds of Labor.

In order to determine employers' preferences for the various groups under study, replies from 669 employing farm operators, complete enough to be tabulated, were assembled with the following results:

Preferences (in order of frequency in replies)	*Number*	*Proportion of total replies—percentage*
For—		
Mexicans	323	35.7
Whites	185	20.5
Japanese	134	14.8
Filipinos	64	7.1
Chinese	33	3.7
East Indians	20	2.2
Negroes	14	1.5
Porto Ricans	2	.2
Mexicans or Japanese	29	3.2
Whites or Mexicans	19	2.1
Mexicans or Filipinos	15	1.7
Filipinos or Japanese	11	1.2
Whites or Japanese	6	.7
Mexicans or Negroes	6	.7
Chinese or Japanese	5	.6
Mexicans or East Indians	4	.4
Mexicans or Chinese	4	.4
Japanese or East Indians	3	.3
Whites or East Indians	2	.2
Whites or Filipinos	1	.1
Filipinos or East Indians	1	.1
Filipinos or Chinese	1	.1
Whites or Chinese	1	.1
Whites, Mexicans or Japanese	4	.4
Mexicans, Filipinos or Japanese	4	.4
Whites, Japanese or East Indians	2	.2
Filipinos, Japanese or East Indians	2	.2
Whites, Mexicans or Negroes	1	.1
Whites, Mexicans or Porto Ricans	1	.1
Mexicans, Chinese or Japanese	1	.1
Mexicans, Filipinos or Chinese	1	.1
Mexicans, East Indians or Negroes	1	.1
Mexicans, Filipinos or East Indians	1	.1
Filipinos, Chinese, Japanese or East Indians	1	.1
Mexicans, Filipinos, Japanese or Chinese	1	.1
Whites, Filipinos, Japanese or East Indians	1	.1
	904	99.7

According to preferences as expressed by this group of farm operators—and the group is probably a typical cross section of the employing farmers of California—the dominant desire for labor able to handle the common tasks incident to the production of crops requiring considerable man labor is for some group other than white. This is shown with considerable force when the different opinions are weighed in order to include the double, triple, or quadruple replies:

Total preferences			703
Total favoring use of white labor	169	24%	
Total favoring use of some group other than white labor	534	76%	

A development of this study is the showing of a marked preference for the Mexican above any other single group (aside from the white) that farm operators deem suited to their requirements. This is shown statistically below:

	Extent of preferences	
	Number	Percentages
Mexicans	303	53.0
Japanese	128	22.4
Filipinos	65	11.4
Chinese	31	5.4
Negroes	23	4.0
East Indians	20	3.5
Porto Ricans	2	.3
Totals	572	100.0

Employers' Preferences According to Locality.

The following table classifies employers' preferences according to the locality where they are operating:

Locality *	No. of records	Employers' preferences in percentages: White	Mexican	Filipino	Porto Rican	Chinese	Japanese	East Indian	Negro
Imperial and Coachella Valleys	21	42	46	0	4	0	8	0	0
Southern California	213	23	65	4	0	2	3	2	1
San Joaquin Valley	214	19	42	11	0	3	20	2	3
Sacramento Valley	94	26	24	12	0	4	27	7	0
Central coast counties	63	42	27	7	1	4	18	0	1
North coast counties	51	14	25	7	0	13	31	1	6

* Due to fewness of records, "Mountain and Desert Counties" not included.

Employers' Preferences According to Type of Business.

The next table shows the preferences of employing farm operators according to the types of business. Attention is confined to the four groups of whites, Mexicans, Filipinos and Japanese. Replies were included which indicated but a single preference in each case; double, triple or quadruple opinions being ignored in the preparation of this table:

Type of farming	*No. of replies*	*Employers' preferences (percentages) for Whites*	*Mexicans*	*Filipinos*	*Japanese*
Deciduous tree fruits	119	47	33	4	16
Grapes	39	15	55	15	15
Subtropical fruits	49	8	86	4	2
Diversified (combination of fruits, truck and field crops)	190	28	53	4	15

Employers' Preferences According to Size of Business.

The table which follows shows preferences of employing farm operators classified according to the size of farm with which each is concerned. In this classification attention obviously centers on the desire for whites, Mexicans, Filipinos and Japanese. The table is built from 458 replies indicating but a single preference (double, triple and quadruple preferences being ignored):

Size of farm business (acres)	*Number of replies*	*Employers' preferences in percentages: Whites*	*Mexicans*	*Filipinos*	*Japanese*	*Porto Ricans*	*Hindus*	*Chinese*	*Negroes*
Less than 20	46	59	29	0	10	0	0	2	0
20 to 40	84	39	45	5	8	0	0	3	0
40 to 80	106	31	41	8	13	0	0	4	3
Over 80	222	17	55	5	18	0	0	1	4

Analysis of Employers' Views Concerning Mexican Labor.

In the preceding section, reasons were set forth as to why farm operators in California either do or do not hire some group other than white workers. The opinions dealt with all groups. In order to get at the views of employing farm operators, a special inquiry was made

to determine the advantages of and objections to Mexicans as a source of common labor.

The views expressed are given below under headings:

(a) Advantages of Mexicans as farm hands.
(b) Objections to Mexicans as farm hands.

The listing follows in the order of the greatest number of times that each statement was given by employing farm operators.

Advantages of Mexicans as Farm Hands.

The striking advantages of Mexicans as farm hands are their availability in numbers when needed and their characteristic of staying with the job. More than 25 per cent of the various opinions put emphasis on availability. "Staying with the job" made up 10 per cent of the opinions. From this point the list dropped on down through such advantages as:

Dependable, steady, and reliable.
Good workers and willing to work.
Adapted to, can and will do, stoop labor.
Willing to work.
Move off when not needed.
Cheaper.
Less trouble.
Board and house themselves.
Experienced.
Tractable and cheerful.
Easily satisfied.
Will follow instructions.
Can stand heat.
Require less watching.
Will do work by contract.

Objections to Mexicans as Farm Hands.

A number of objections to Mexicans as farm hands are advanced by employing farm operators. Sometimes one employer gives both good and bad points, but usually each individual statement contains only advantages or objections. Of a total of 543 opinions setting forth both favorable and unfavorable reactions, 288 were of a favorable and 255 of an unfavorable nature. These figures apply to the number of opinions advanced and not to the number of reporting employers.

Marked among the objections are:

Require herding, driving, and constant watching.
Dirty.
Lazy.
Slow.
Unreliable.
Limited intelligence.
Thieving.
Untrustworthy and tricky.
Dishonest.

Other objections, in order of relative importance, but less frequently mentioned than items of the list given above, put stress on:

Not thorough.
Diseased.
Bad habits.
Too many children.
Not dependable.
Strike readily.
Lack sense of duty and responsibility.
Fail to comprehend and follow orders.

Effect Upon Agriculture Generally If Mexicans Are Placed on a Quota Basis.

In order to discover the reaction of farm operators to the possible effect upon their farming if Mexicans were placed upon a quota basis, a question on this phase of the subject was inserted in the questionnaire sent out. The outcome of our assembling of the replies *may* show what employers feel would be the effect of curtailing Mexican immigration upon agriculture generally as followed in California. This table reflects the views of 719 employers of farm labor:

Opinion	*Number of replies*	*Percentages of total*
No effect	197	27
Would make difficulties	480	67
Would help situation	42	6
Totals	719	100

A more comprehensive idea of the conditions likely to result, in the opinions as listed above, follows if a reassembling of the replies is made in accordance with (a) locality, (b) type of industry being followed, and (c) size of holdings. The findings thus classified are shown in the next three tables:

Effect of Placing Mexicans Upon a Quota Basis: Replies Grouped According to Locality.

Replies classified according to where the answering employers are operating are given in the next table:

Employers located in*	*Number of records*	*Percentage of employers reporting:* "No effect"	"Presents difficulties"	"Probably would help"
Southern California	182	29	65	6
San Joaquin Valley	314	19	75	6
Sacramento Valley	97	42	53	5
Central coast counties	44	32	61	7

* Omitted localities represented by too few records to justify their inclusion.

Effect of Placing Mexicans Upon a Quota Basis: Replies Grouped According to Type of Business.

The next table shows the findings grouped according to the outstanding type of business being conducted by the answering employers:

Principal type of business	*Number of replies*	*Percentage of employers reporting:* "No effect"	"Presents difficulties"	"Probably would help"
Deciduous tree fruits	302	36	56	8
Grapes	195	13	82	5
Citrus and subtropical fruits	95	28	71	1
Truck crops	51	29	67	4
Diversified	54	29	67	4

The next table shows the influence of size of farm being operated by the answering employers as this affects the replies:

Size of farm	Number of replies	Percentage of employers reporting: "No effect"	"Presents difficulties"	"Probably would help"
Under 20 acres but not under 5 acres	90	53	34	13
20 to 40 acres	197	30	62	8
40 to 80 acres	142	30	65	5
Over 80 acres	290	18	78	4

Effect on Specific Farming Operations of Farm Operators If Mexicans Are Placed Upon Quota Basis.

To a question as to the specific effect upon the farming operations of the individual employers, replies ran as follows:

Would affect farming operations—	
Adversely	449
Advantageously	42
Temporarily disadvantageously	9
No effect	198
Do not know	33

The effect of limiting the numbers of incoming Mexicans (the result that placing Mexicans upon a quota basis is expected to have) would, in the opinion of the majority, be disadvantageous. The outstanding bad effects as listed in the replies center in a belief that farmers could not get their work done, on account of labor scarcity. This was asserted 173 times. The next opinion, repeated time and again, was to the effect that costs would increase. This was declared 79 times. The other reasons were either very few in number or indefinite in nature. A dozen replies stated "disastrous"; others see in curtailment "increased waste" and "inefficiency"; "change to some other type of farming"; "necessity to quit"; "reduction in acreage"; "bankruptcy for all but family farms," and "replacement of Mexicans by Negroes." Those who see an advantage in the curtailing of Mexican immigration are likewise few in number, but their replies reflect beliefs that such curtailment would result in "a better community to live in"; "better chance for white labor"; "help unemployment situation," and "would help the over-production problem."

Another set of replies, bearing upon the effect on farming should Mexicans be placed upon a quota basis, answers the question whether the employer now using Mexicans would resort to white labor upon the curtailment of the Mexican supply. Of 656 offering an opinion, 458 answered "yes," 198 "no." Of the 458 answering "yes," 74 qualified with some such phrase as "if available," "would have to," "would try," "if I can get white labor," and "if they'd work." And many of those answering "yes" made some comment such as "would just drive me out of the business," "doubt if there would be enough white labor to go round," and "would not get away from present inefficiency of white laborers." Some who answer "no" give as reasons the probability of an insufficient supply, inability of white men to labor under their climatic or working conditions, and general dissatisfaction with the present available supply of white labor.

Comparison of Wages Paid to Different Groups of Laborers.

The 1321 questionnaires returned by employers who reported their wage scale, give the following comparable data as to wages paid to Mexicans, Filipinos, Porto Ricans, Japanese, Negroes, and Hindus, and also to white labor. Wages as reported below include a charge for board and lodging.

Comparison of	Total number of reports	Number reporting same scale	Number reporting higher for	Number reporting higher for	Average wage scale			
					Per day		Per hour	
					(These columns correspond to groups as marked in first vertical column)			
							Cents	Cents
Whites and Mexicans	233	53	Whites 129	Mexicans 51	$3.60	$3.46	38.8	37.2
Whites and Filipinos	59	29	Whites 30	Filipinos 0	3.70	3.47	37.5	36.2
Whites and Chinese	13	9	Whites 4	Chinese 0	3.56	3.43	38.3	36.7
Whites and Japanese	66	40	Whites 14	Japanese 12	3.70	3.76	39.0	38.9
Whites and Negroes	16	10	Whites 5	Negroes 1	3.69	3.48	40.0	37.5
Mexicans and Filipinos	58	47	Mexicans 4	Filipinos 7	3.43	3.44	36.5	36.4
Mexicans and Chinese	12	11	Mexicans 0	Chinese 1	3.40	3.48	36.6	36.6
Mexicans and Japanese	70	30	Mexicans 7	Japanese 33	3.43	3.73	35.7	39.1
Mexicans and Negroes	14	7	Mexicans 3	Negroes 4	3.58	3.54	37.7	37.7
Filipinos and Japanese	35	26	Filipinos 1	Japanese 8	3.43	3.58	36.9	37.3
Chinese and Japanese	12	9	Chinese 0	Japanese 3	3.44	3.50	36.2	37.6
	588	271	(317)					

The tabulation of wage scales, as just given, shows the relationship between wages paid to different groups as compiled from records showing at least two groups of laborers doing comparable work.

The Japanese was the only group paid consistently more money than the group with which it was compared. This applied not only to Mexicans, Filipinos, and Chinese, in competition with Japanese, but also to white workers, in competition with Japanese. The daily wage paid to Japanese was higher by 6 cents than to Chinese or whites; 15 cents higher than to Filipinos, and 30 cents higher than the Mexican wage scale. The hourly rate shows very little difference. The differences are tabulated below:

	By day	*By hour*
Increase paid Japanese compared with whites	6 cents	---
Increase paid Japanese compared with Mexicans	30 cents	3.4 cents
Increase paid Japanese compared with Filipinos	15 cents	.4 cents
Increase paid Japanese compared with Chinese	6 cents	1.4 cents

The wage schedule for whites in comparison with Mexicans, Filipinos, Chinese, and Negroes was higher on both a day and an hour basis. The differences appear below:

	Day basis	*Hour basis*
Increase over Mexicans	23 cents	1.6 cents
Increase over Filipinos	23 cents	1.3 cents
Increase over Chinese	13 cents	1.6 cents
Increase over Negroes	21 cents	2.5 cents

Not enough data were available to compare the following:

Whites and Porto Ricans.
Whites and Hindus.
Mexicans and Filipinos.
Mexicans and Hindus.
Porto Ricans and Filipinos.
Porto Ricans and Chinese.
Porto Ricans and Japanese.
Porto Ricans and Hindus.
Porto Ricans and Negroes.
Filipinos and Chinese.
Filipinos and Hindus.
Filipinos and Negroes.
Chinese and Negroes.
Chinese and Hindus.
Japanese and Hindus.
Japanese and Negroes.
Hindus and Negroes.

The range in wage schedules was found to be as follows:

For—	*Per day*	*Per hour*
Whites	$3.00–$6.00	35–50 cents
Mexicans	2.75– 6.00	30–45 cents
Filipinos	2.50– 4.00	35–40 cents
Chinese	2.70– 4.00	35–40 cents
Japanese	3.15– 5.00	35–45 cents
Negroes	2.80– 4.20	35–40 cents

The greatest frequency in wage scales was as follows:

For—	*Per day*	*Per hour*
Whites	$3.50	40 cents
Mexicans	3.50	35 cents
Filipinos	3.50	35 cents
Chinese	3.50	35 cents
Japanese	3.50	40 cents
Negroes	3.50	35 cents

Data regarding Porto Ricans and Hindus were not sufficient to warrant including.

Comparison of Output of Workers.

A tabulation was attempted of employers' ideas concerning the amount of work these different peoples usually accomplish in comparison with white laborers. The results follow:

Number of replies	*Group*	*Opinions: Output compared with white laborers*		
		Same	*More*	*Less*
576	Mexicans	258	151	167
50	Porto Ricans	16	8	26
181	Filipinos	60	56	65
100	Chinese	30	31	39
244	Japanese	71	145	28
69	Negroes	29	7	33
1,220		464	398	358

Opinion concerning the Filipino output per day is about equally divided as between "same," "more," and "less"; and likewise for the Chinese.

Summary.

1. In a final analysis of the place that any group of people should occupy in a nation's life the economic advantages must be weighed against the social disadvantages, and vice versa. This presentation deals only with the economic aspect of common labor as it affects California agriculture, with special reference to the Mexican.

2. From the evidence given in detail in the preceding pages, the Mexican is an important factor in the producing of California crops. He is today a principal source of farm labor in California. He does tasks that white workers will not or can not do. He works under climatic and working conditions, such as excessive heat, dust, isolation, and temporary employment; conditions that are often too trying for white workers. He will work in gangs. He will work under direction, taking orders and suggestions.

3. Compared with groups of workers other than whites, that is, Japanese, Filipinos, Porto Ricans, Chinese, Negroes, and East Indians, he is preferred by a large majority of farm operators employing farm labor.

4. A material and abrupt reduction in the present available supply of farm labor will force changes in California agriculture.

Part IV

HEALTH, RELIEF AND DELINQUENCY CONDITIONS AMONG THE MEXICANS OF CALIFORNIA

(Prepared by the Department of Social Welfare)

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INTRODUCTION

In gathering material concerning social welfare problems among the Mexicans of California, the Department of Social Welfare has drawn upon records and reports of the State Departments of Public Health, Education, Institutions, and Social Welfare, city and county records from the localities where Mexicans constitute a considerable proportion of the population, and records of private social agencies in those districts. Some of this material has been issued in published reports, much is compiled from unpublished but official records, and part was secured by these agencies for the present survey. The bulk of the data from sources other than the state departments is from Los Angeles County for the reasons that, on account of its size and organization, far more record material is available in that county than elsewhere in the state, and also far more Mexicans reside in that county than in any other. In the smaller counties much of the data sought were not obtainable, since the keeping of records is not well developed in the smaller counties nor was it found possible to segregate social data relating to Mexicans. All pertinent data secured, except fragmentary and disconnected items, have been included.

Estimates as to the Mexican population of California vary widely. For the first six months of 1929 the State Bureau of Vital Statistics records over one-sixth of all births in the state as Mexicans.[1] As the birth rate among Mexicans is undoubtedly higher than among the general population and as a large number of the Mexicans have come into the state in the child-bearing ages, the proportion of Mexican births to total births is doubtedless far higher than the proportion of Mexicans in the population. Lack of recent census data as to the general population of California as well as to the Mexican population makes difficult any attempt to draw comparisons, but certain estimates of population will assist in arriving at a sense of the significance of the social data which follow.

The estimated Mexican population of Los Angeles County in 1928, as figured by the Los Angeles County Charities Department, the Mexican consul at Los Angeles and others working directly with the Mexicans, was approximately 250,000.[2] The total population of the county at the same date was estimated[3] as approximately 2,270,000 which would indicate that the Mexicans represented about 11 per cent of the county population. At the same date the population of the city of Los Angeles was estimated by the Los Angeles City Police Department as 1,343,000. Of this total Mexicans were estimated to represent

[1] For table of births see page 179.

[2] Statement of Los Angeles County Charities Department, June, 1928.

[3] Estimate accepted by the County Charities Department from calculations of Chamber of Commerce and public service corporations. The 1930 census figures (unofficial) give the population of Los Angeles County as 2,199,557, and that of the city as 1,233,561, which tally fairly closely with the estimates as given. Census figures as to racial segregation will not be available for a considerable time.

slightly over 10 per cent.[4] The Los Angeles city school system in the school census of 1928 accounted for 48,000 Mexican children, and according to a statement issued by the school department, Los Angeles has a larger population of Mexicans than any other city in the United States or even Mexico with the exception of Mexico City.[5]

Housing.

The Mexican in California, like various other foreign-speaking immigrants in the United States, tends to live in colonies, retaining his traditions and a mode of life not always satisfactory to his American neighbors. How many or what proportion of the Mexicans live in distinctly Mexican districts can not be stated, but the existence of "Little Mexicos," both urban and rural, is a matter of common knowledge.

The tendency of the Mexican to live in a racial group is strengthened by several conditions. On arrival he seldom speaks English and consequently is dependent upon the Spanish-speaking group for adjustment to his new environment. The Mexican commonly performs unskilled and consequently low paid work, so that his choice as to quarters is restricted. In Mexico the laboring classes have been used to very simple living with only the most primitive sanitation, and owners are naturally reluctant to rent their buildings to Mexican tenants if others can be found. In addition, there exists a prejudice against the Mexican which manifests itself in the common classification of the Mexican as "not white."[6]

From an inquiry sent to realty boards in various cities of the state,[7] 47 replies were received, of which number the following 24 reported segregated districts composed of Mexicans, or Mexicans and other foreigners:

Azusa	Monrovia	San Bernardino
Bakersfield	Montebello	San Fernando
Bell	Napa	Santa Barbara
Compton	Ontario	Santa Maria
Huntington Park	Pomona	Santa Monica
Lankershim	Porterville	Van Nuys
Madera	Redlands	Visalia
Modesto	Riverside	Whittier

[4] Annual Report, Police Department of Los Angeles City, 1927–8, pp. 9, 56. "The proportion of the race groups was secured by adjusting data from the city school census of children from 3 to 18 years of age, compensating for lack of congruency between the city and city school district and for variations in the probable total persons per child of school age among the races."

[5] Ethnological study of the Mexicans (unpublished). Research Department, Los Angeles City School System, June, 1928.

[6] In his study of Mexican labor in the Imperial Valley, Paul S. Taylor discusses this domiciliary isolation: "One of the most striking aspects of the Mexican labor situation in Imperial Valley is the concentration of the Mexican town population in colonies geographically apart from the American community. * * * Most of the Mexicans outside of Calexico are poor, and poverty leaves them little choice of residence outside of the cheapest quarters. Furthermore, there is the natural tendency to gravitate toward the places where, in a strange land, others of one's language, class, and culture may be found. Finally, there is the social pressure from the American community, which generally does not desire Mexicans as neighbors. A symptom of this pressure is the race restriction sometimes included in the deeds to property. * * * The Mexicans in the valley are sensitvie to the social ostracism which they face, and do not force themselves in where they feel the pressure against them. * * * The separation of rural Mexicans from American neighbors is as clear as the separation prevailing in the towns." "Mexican Labor in the United States: Imperial Valley," by Paul S. Taylor, pp. 79, 80, 82.

[7] Inquiry sent out by Professor Elliott G. Mears of Stanford University in cooperation with the California Real Estate Association, February, 1927.

In addition, other boards cited clauses inserted in deeds and sales contracts calculated to confine Orientals, Mexicans and Negroes to certain districts. Although most of these clauses seek to restrict the occupants of the premises to "persons of Caucasian race," in some instances the Mexican was definitely specified as prohibited from occupancy.

Further evidence of the concentration of Mexicans in separate localities and districts is presented in the following list of counties having regular elementary schools with an enrollment of over 90 per cent Mexican.[8] A total of 58 elementary public schools appear on the record for the school year 1927–28 as having from 90 to 100 per cent enrollment of Mexicans. It should be noted that these schools are not separate schools in mixed districts to which Mexicans must send their children, but are regular public schools, the almost exclusive enrollment of Mexicans being due to the fact that the district is inhabited by virtually none but Mexicans.

County	*Number of schools having an enrollment 90 to 100% Mexican*
Imperial	8
Kern	8
Orange	14
Los Angeles	10
Riverside	2
San Bernardino	16
Santa Barbara	2
Ventura	4

The older section of Los Angeles, around and east of the Plaza, is a distinctly Mexican settlement. Spanish is the language commonly heard, the signs in the shops are in Spanish, the goods on sale are distinctly for Mexicans, and the moving picture theaters show only Spanish titles. In the old mission are celebrated colorful and picturesque festivals with all the traditional Mexican games of chance. In a study of the home conditions of the Mexican families made by the principal of the Macey Street School,[9] and including all families whether or not they had children attending school, the fact was brought out that virtually none of these families owned their own homes. The explanation given was that property in that district was held for industrial developments at prices too high to permit the Mexicans to purchase, and that the developments within the city have forced many of the Mexicans to move to districts farther out. The largest of these is in the Belvedere district, just outside of Los Angeles, known as Maravilla Park. The Mexican population in this district numbers about 45,000,[10] and six large modern public schools have been built in which the enrollment is practically 100 per cent Mexican. One of these schools is a "development school" for subnormal children.

This district is just beyond the city limits and was built up without regard to the proper requirements for sanitation in congested districts. Two, and sometimes three, shacks are built upon one very small lot, leaving little unoccupied ground space. The shacks are flimsy shells, usually constructed of scrap lumber, old boxes, or other salvage.

At various times the city and county health departments have made housing surveys of the Mexican districts. Summary findings of two

[8] Statistics of California Elementary Schools, 1927–28, California State Department of Education.

[9] From the records (unpublished) at the Macey Street School, Los Angeles.

[10] Census of Belvedere District made by Los Angeles County Charities Department.

housing surveys made recently by the Los Angeles County Health Department[11] give a fair picture of life in the Mexican districts.

One district covered by the survey consisted of eight city blocks in Maravilla Park, containing 317 houses having a population of 1509 persons, or an average of practically 40 houses to the block and 4.8 persons to the house.

The average annual family income was $795, almost all of the workers being classed as unskilled laborers. Of the 317 houses, 199 were owned and 118 rented, of which number 211 were rated as mere shacks and the remaining 106 as bungalows or semibungalows. Light and ventilation were classed as reasonably good in 154 cases, and as poor in 163 cases. Sixty-two houses had good screens, and 255 had poor screens or none. Only 10 of the houses had cesspools connected up to flush toilets, 16 had cesspools not connected to flush toilets; 147 had privies in fair condition and 144 were classed as privies in poor condition. The attempt to maintain cleanliness under these difficult conditions was evidenced by the report that 227 of the houses were clean and 252 of the yards at least fairly clean.

A check on food supplies and diet showed 158 houses with sufficient food, 95 in which food was somewhat lacking, and 64 in which food was distinctly scant. For preserving food, only 9 had refrigerators, 128 had screened cupboards or coolers, and the balance of 180 had no provisions for keeping food in good condition.

On the home index score card,[12] with 25 as the standard, the district[13] averages 8.3.

A similar housing survey[11] made in a Mexican district in San Fernando covered 357 families, with a total of 1668 persons, 851 adults and 817 children. The income range of the families showed 79 having less than $400 per year; 112 from $600 to $800 per year; 79 from $800 to $1,000 per year; and 87, $1,000 or over. A special study was made of their diet and food supplies which indicated that 35 per cent had plenty of meat in their diet, 56 per cent very little, and 9 per cent none at all. Of vegetables, 40 per cent had plenty, and 60 per cent very few. Milk was received daily by 45 per cent, while 25 per cent took milk occasionally and 30 per cent never bought milk. Automobiles of some description were owned by 39 per cent and 37 per cent possessed musical instruments. On the home index card the San Fernando district, with 25 as the standard, averaged 9.5.

In addition to the large settlements of Mexicans there are smaller camps located on the outskirts of towns, where the common practice is to charge ground rent and permit the renter to erect his own shack. A number of camps of this description located on the outskirts of Whit-

[11] The Mexican as a Health Problem—Report (unpublished) by Los Angeles County Health Department, June, 1928.

[12] Score card used in the inspection and rating of home conditions, numerical values being given in place of such rating as "excellent," "fair," or "poor." On such a card a rating of 25 would be given where all the itemized conditions were found "excellent." A score of 8.3 would be decidedly poor.

[13] Concerning the mode of life of the Mexicans of this district the following statement is made by the Los Angeles County Charities Department: "Virtually all of the Mexicans, regardless of age and physical inability, migrate 'to the fruit' in early summer and return when the seasonal work is over. In good years they bring back enough funds to carry them into, and sometimes through the winter, but in poor years they return with no money, their clothes worn out, and worse off than when they left." And again: "There are possibly not ten homes in Maravilla where the income is really adequate for the family needs."

tier, Montebello, and El Monte were inspected by representatives of the Department of Social Welfare, accompanied by Los Angeles County Health, Charities, and School officials. In camps of this character as the renter has no security of tenure he naturally wastes no money on lasting sanitary improvements. These settlements are sources of constant annoyance to the localities, and only by continual inspection and vigilance on the part of the health authorities can the menace of widespread disease he held in check. Patches of ground are rented as small as twenty by thirty feet. Ground rent varies from one, two, three, five, even ten dollars a month, and in several camps inspected by the department the annual rental would amount to over a thousand dollars an acre, in return for which the owner had made no investment whatever in sanitation or road improvements.

In his study of Mexican labor in the Imperial Valley, Paul S Taylor discusses the housing of agricultural labor in that district: "In the more permanent camps one finds rough lumber houses of a room or two, often screened, seldom painted. Sometimes the kitchen is in one of the rooms, often is is in a separate shelter outside the house. A roof of brush or arrow weed may be built out across the front or rear for shade. The 'ditch-bank camp' is the typical temporary camp for the seasonal labor forces with harvest the crops (of course many permanent camps also are located along ditch banks). This type of camp is usually located among the trees that line the irrigation ditches. Its shelters are commonly tents, which the Mexicans generally supply themselves, or pieces of canvas stretched across a pole, with boxes, brush, burlap or what-not across the end. Sometimes the shelters are nothing more than the typical arrow weed *ramada,* consisting of roof and from one to three sides, which provides shade and wind protection. * * * The impermanent types of shelter, tents, *ramadas,* etc. are of course not confined to the temporary camps, but may be found also accommodating the seasonal influx in the permanent camps. The inspectors of the State Housing Commission endeavor to enforce certain minimum standards. These include tents (floored during the lettuce season, but not necessarily in the cantaloupe season), beds, screened cook houses and toilets, bathing facilities, and garbage disposal. Employers are held responsible for the cleanliness of the camps. Up to the present time (1927) the inspectors have experienced considerable difficulty in enforcing these standards, which are by no means universally observed."

Birth Statistics of Mexicans in California.

Beginning in 1926 the State Bureau of Vital Statistics began segregating Mexican births in their records. In that year Mexican births equaled one-seventh of the total. Two years later they rose to one-sixth, and the first six months of 1929 indicate a continued increase. The figures for these years are:

TABLE 1. TOTAL BIRTHS AND NUMBER OF MEXICAN BIRTHS IN CALIFORNIA, 1926-1929

Year	*Total births*	*Mexican births*	*Per cent Mexican*
1926	82,372	11,721	14.2
1927	84,334	12,688	15.0
1928	83,643	13,846	16.6
1929 (Jan.-June)	39,221	6,959	17.7

Most of these births occur in the southern part of the state. In the rural districts of Imperial County, 52 per cent of all births in 1928 were Mexican. In the rural districts of San Bernardino and Riverside counties, more than 40 per cent of all births were Mexican. In some of the cities of Imperial County, the Mexican births in 1928 were between 60 and 70 per cent of all births.

In the following table are given the total births in the counties and cities of California in 1928, the number of Mexican births and the percentage which Mexican births represented of the total. This distribution of Mexican births indicates the migration of Mexican families into the San Joaquin Valley and certain counties of northern California. Santa Barbara and Ventura indicate the presence of a large proportion of Mexicans. In the San Joaquin Valley, Madera, Kings, and the rural districts of Fresno and Kern counties indicate over one-fifth of all births to be Mexican; while an unexpectedly large proportion of Mexican births are found in Amador (26 per cent) Contra Costa rural (19.8 per cent), Lassen (18.2 per cent), Placer (19.7 per cent), San Benito (18 per cent) and Tuolumne (16.4 per cent).

TABLE 2. TOTAL NUMBER OF BIRTHS, NUMBER OF MEXICAN BIRTHS, AND PER CENT WHICH MEXICAN BIRTHS REPRESENT OF TOTAL FOR EACH COUNTY AND CITY OF CALIFORNIA, FOR THE YEAR 1928.[14]

County	*Total births*	*Mexican births*	*Per cent Mexican*
CALIFORNIA	83,643	13,846	16.6
Alameda	534	44	8.2
Oakland	4,564	173	3.8
Alameda	559	6	1.1
Berkeley	809	17	2.1
San Leandro	79	3	3.8
Alpine	1	--	--
Amador	100	26	26.0
Butte	413	17	4.1
Chico	191	1	0.5
Calaveras	60	1	1.7
Colusa	150	9	6.0
Contra Costa	783	155	19.8
Richmond	341	50	14.7
Del Norte	55	--	--
El Dorado	85	4	4.7
Fresno	1,529	309	20.2
Fresno	1,093	86	7.9
Glenn	150	6	4.0
Humboldt	285	--	--
Eureka	341	2	0.6
Imperial	565	294	52.0
Brawley	278	180	64.7
Calexico	174	125	71.8
El Centro	195	47	24.1
Inyo	114	17	14.9
Kern	1,051	222	21.1
Bakersfield	620	87	14.0
Kings	302	65	21.5
Hanford	212	39	18.4
Lake	56	1	1.8
Lassen	264	48	18.2
Los Angeles	8,119	2,136	26.3
Los Angeles	17,734	4,028	22.7
Alhambra	266	20	7.5
Long Beach	1,954	84	4.3
Pasadena	1,101	137	12.4
Pomona	373	80	21.4
Santa Monica	745	136	18.2
Glendale	922	31	3.4
Monrovia	134	25	17.6
Redondo Beach	51	5	9.8
Whittier	306	34	11.1
South Pasadena	137	--	--

[14] Figures for State Department of Public Health, Bureau of Vital Statistics, 1929.

County	*Total births*	*Mexican births*	*Per cent Mexican*
Madera	301	102	33.9
Marin	195	1	0.5
San Rafael	150	2	1.3
Mariposa	25	--	--
Mendocino	314	--	--
Merced	587	89	15.16
Modoc	80	--	--
Mono	11	--	--
Monterey	597	58	9.7
Monterey	142	13	9.1
Napa	117	6	5.1
Napa	120	--	--
Nevada	106	--	--
Orange	1,170	448	38.3
Santa Ana	579	130	22.4
Anaheim	196	34	17.3
Placer	366	72	19.7
Plumas	89	9	10.1
Riverside	813	355	43.7
Riverside	691	190	27.5
Sacramento	400	18	4.5
Sacramento	1,953	113	5.8
San Benito	206	37	18.0
San Bernardino	1,141	508	44.5
Redlands	252	63	25.0
San Bernardino	949	325	34.2
Ontario	171	70	40.9
San Diego	757	239	31.6
San Diego	2,646	464	17.5
San Francisco	8,169	284	3.5
San Joaquin	799	53	6.6
Stockton	834	68	8.1
San Luis Obispo	241	27	11.2
San Luis Obispo	177	16	9.0
San Mateo	375	34	9.1
San Mateo	331	--	--
Santa Barbara	476	161	33.8
Santa Barbara	506	121	23.9
Santa Clara	1,011	83	8.2
San Jose	766	17	2.2
Palo Alto	185	--	--
Santa Clara	68	4	5.9
Santa Cruz	122	9	7.4
Santa Cruz	195	3	1.5
Watsonville	213	10	4.7
Shasta	141	3	2.1
Sierra	14	1	7.1
Siskiyou	440	33	7.5
Solano	210	20	9.5
Vallejo	198	--	--
Sonoma	360	9	2.5
Petaluma	179	--	--
Santa Rosa	189	--	--
Stanislaus	491	40	8.1
Modesto	462	19	4.1
Sutter	129	4	3.1
Tehama	206	3	1.4
Trinity	15	--	--
Tulare	1,207	186	15.4
Visalia	211	36	17.1
Tuolumne	152	25	16.4
Ventura	1,109	439	39.6
Yolo	331	36	10.9
Yuba	39	--	--
Marysville	173	6	3.5

Since 1916 the Los Angeles County Health Department has been segregating its statistics of Mexican births and deaths, in the unincorporated area of the county, and the rapid increase in the number of Mexican births and the proportion which they represent of the total, as given in the following table, indicates the increase of Mexican population in that district. It will be noted that in 1916 Mexican births represented one-eighth of the total but the proportion has increased to nearly one-third of the total in 1927.

TABLE 3. TOTAL BIRTHS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, UNINCORPORATED AREA, NUMBER OF WHITE AND MEXICAN BIRTHS, AND PERCENTAGE WHICH WHITE AND MEXICAN BIRTHS REPRESENT OF TOTAL, 1916-1927.[15]

Year	Total births	No. white births	No. Mexican births	Per cent white of total	Per cent Mexican of total
1916	1,519	843	193	55.5	12.7
1917	1,571	830	196	52.8	12.5
1918	1,503	828	258	55.1	17.2
1919	1,474	776	276	52.6	18.7
1920	1,867	1,079	375	57.8	20.1
1921	2,300	1,374	458	59.7	19.9
1922	2,468	1,531	489	62.0	19.8
1923	3,229	1,999	806	61.9	25.0
1924	4,194	2,674	1,189	63.7	28.4
1925	4,044	2,461	1,222	60.8	30.2
1926	4,230	2,702	1,276	63.9	30.2
1927	4,435	2,827	1,406	63.7	31.7

Corresponding figures for Los Angeles city from 1918 to 1927 indicate a similar rapid increase in the number of Mexican births and in the proportion from approximately one-twelfth of the total in 1918 to nearly one-fifth in 1927.

TABLE 4. TOTAL NUMBER OF BIRTHS AND MEXICAN BIRTHS IN LOS ANGELES CITY, 1918 TO 1927, WITH PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICAN BIRTHS COMPRISE OF TOTAL.[16]

Year	Total births	No. Mexican births	Per cent Mexican of total
1918	8,581	733	8.5
1919	8,822	850	9.6
1920	10,439	1,313	12.6
1921	12,097	1,708	14.1
1922	13,473	1,869	13.9
1923	14,807	2,206	14.9
1924	18,425	3,140	17.0
1925	19,124	3,225	16.9
1926	18,207	2,976	16.3
1927	18,053	3,449	19.1

Excess of Births Over Deaths.

A tabulation of the white[17] and Mexican deaths in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County from 1921 to the present time, and a comparison with the births for the same period, indicates a steadily increasing excess of births over deaths among the Mexicans from 247 in 1921 to 950 in 1927, but among the white population in three years out of the seven, the number of deaths exceeded the number of births and the total excess of births over deaths for the seven years is only 241. The rapid increase in all classes of the population by migration overshadows the importance of the increase through excess of births over deaths, but the trend should be noted.

Corresponding figures of the excess of births over deaths, or of deaths over births, for the general population and for the Mexican population of Los Angeles City from 1918 to 1928, indicates that the Mexican share of this increase has grown from one-sixteenth in 1918 to well over one-third in 1927, and during the period of ten years almost one-fourth of the natural increase in population has been Mexican.

[15] Figures from the Los Angeles County Health Department, 1929. The large number of Japanese births in the earlier years covered in this table accounts for most of the difference between the sum of the white plus the Mexican, and the total.

[16] Figures from the Los Angeles City Health Department, 1929.

[17] In addition to the white (Caucasian) and Mexican figures, the total includes Negroes and Orientals. To simplify the table, detail figures for these other groups are not here given, as not significant to the present study.

TABLE 5. TOTAL DEATHS, NUMBER WHITE AND NUMBER MEXICAN DEATHS IN UNINCORPORATED AREA OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY. 1921–1927, WITH EXCESS BIRTHS OVER DEATHS[18] OF WHITES AND MEXICANS.[19]

Year	Total deaths	White deaths	Mexican deaths	Excess births over deaths, white	Excess births over deaths, Mexicans
Total	19,150	15,993	2,776	241	4,070
1921	1,835	1,537	211	— 163	247
1922	2,245	1,864	265	— 333	224
1923	2,786	2,235	441	— 236	365
1924	3,025	2,412	497	262	692
1925	2,981	2,778	484	— 317	738
1926	2,975	2,436	419	266	857
1927	3,303	2,731	459	96	947

TABLE 6. TOTAL DEATHS AND NUMBER OF MEXICAN DEATHS IN LOS ANGELES CITY, 1918–1927, WITH EXCESS BIRTHS OVER DEATHS[18] OF TOTAL AND MEXICAN POPULATION.[20]

Year	Total deaths	Mexican deaths	Excess births over deaths	
			Total	Mexicans
Total	98,962	11,280	43,066	10,189
1918	6,833	622	1,748	111
1919	10,075	1,121	— 1,253	— 271
1920	7,788	739	2,651	574
1921	8,203	888	3,894	820
1922	9,259	990	4,214	879
1923	9,885	1,212	4,922	994
1924	11,467	1,495	6,958	1,645
1925	11,288	1,396	7,836	1,829
1926	11,503	1,276	6,704	1,700
1927	12,661	1,541	5,392	1,908

Infant Mortality.

As has been demonstrated by the elaborate studies made by the United States Children's Bureau,[21] infant mortality may be accepted as an index of the standard of living and intelligence of the group. A comparison of the infant mortality rate[22] among the Mexican and white population of Los Angeles County's unincorporated area is significant. With a foreign language group the tendency towards incompleteness in the reporting of vital statistics always exists, but under the present maternal and infant hygiene service conducted by the Los Angeles County Department of Health, every precaution is taken to insure completeness and accuracy. During all this period the district has been within the birth registration area, which implies repeated checks upon the completeness and accuracy of reporting.

TABLE 7. INFANT MORTALITY RATE OF THE WHITE AND MEXICAN POPULATION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY (UNINCORPORATED AREA), 1916 TO 1929, INCLUSIVE.[23]

Year	Infant mortality rate, White	Infant mortality rate, Mexican
1916	70.0	285.0
1917	67.4	255.1
1918	71.3	348.1
1919	61.9	170.0
1920	60.2	186.7
1921	57.6	179.0
1922	78.4	243.4
1923	80.5	250.6
1924	61.3	163.2
1925	58.5	166.1
1926	41.9	124.6
1927	45.4	96.9
1928	51.7	116.8
1929	39.6	104.5

[18] Or excess deaths over births.
[19] Figures from the Los Angeles County Health Department, 1929.
[20] Figures from the Los Angeles City Health Department, 1929.
[21] United States Department of Labor, Children's Bureau. Causal Factors in Infant Mortality, 1925.
[22] The infant mortality rate is the number of deaths, exclusive of stillbirths, under one year of age per 1000 live births.
[23] Figures from Los Angeles County Health Department, 1930.

Comparison of the white and Mexican infant mortality rates indicates sharply the poverty and unintelligent mode of living of the Mexican group. In 1916 over one-fourth of all Mexican babies born died within their first year of life, an extraordinarily high rate, and while the rate showed improvements in 1919, 1920, and 1921, it still stood at 250.6 in 1923. At that time the county established an intensive program of maternal and infant hygiene, which has served to reduce the death rate among Mexican infants to 104.5 in 1929, but this rate still remains over two and a half times as high as among the white population.

Comparison of the white and Mexican infant mortality by causes brings out the contrast still more sharply. In his analysis of the causes of infant deaths, Dr. John L. Pomeroy, director, Los Angeles County Health Department, states:[24] "Premature birth is a general cause not related to mode of living, and for this cause little difference is to be noted between the white and Mexican rates. For the other causes, gastrointestinal, communicable, and respiratory diseases, are all controlled mainly by intelligent type of living habits and precaution measures. For these causes the Mexican rate is from two to eight times higher than the white rate." This comparison is indicated in the following table:

TABLE 8. INFANT MORTALITY RATE IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY (UNINCORPORATED AREA)

Year	*Premature birth*	*Gastrointestinal diseases*	*Communicable diseases*	*Respiratory diseases*
		WHITE		
1921	16.74	12.37	7.73	4.37
1922	15.03	18.27	13.72	14.37
1923	23.01	19.00	9.50	8.00
1924	16.08	14.58	8.23	8.23
1925	17.07	7.31	10.56	7.31
1926	15.17	4.81	5.55	4.44
1927	14.86	6.01	5.35	---
		MEXICAN		
1921	17.47	74.23	30.57	28.38
1922	22.49	87.93	34.76	51.21
1923	21.09	116.62	32.26	40.94
1924	19.34	66.44	23.55	34.48
1925	17.18	68.74	12.27	32.73
1926	10.97	45.45	10.97	29.00
1927	12.09	44.80	17.20	---

Communicable Disease.

A study of communicable disease, the number of cases, number of deaths, and particularly the case fatality rate, serves as a general index of the mode of living, the care received, and the physical resistance of the individual.[25] From 1921 the Los Angeles County Health Department has made a racial segregation in its records. This separation of figures as to the white and the Mexican population brings out the fact that one-sixth of all communicable cases and one-fourth of all such deaths are of Mexicans. Without accurate population statistics, which are not obtainable, the percentage of Mexicans in the population can not be computed, but according to estimates of population, the number

[24] The Mexican as a Health Problem. Los Angeles County Health Department, 1928.

[25] Figures, statements and analysis by Dr. John L. Pomeroy, Director, Los Angeles County Health Department.

of cases and deaths among the Mexicans is disproportionately high. The case fatality rate—the number of deaths per hundred cases—can, however, be computed and this serves as an index of care and resistance. In 1921, among the Mexican population, nearly one-fourth of all cases of communicable disease (which includes all diseases reportable by law) terminated fatally. This rate was nearly twice as high as the fatality among the white population. Under an expanded service inaugurated by the County Health Department in 1921, the communicable diseases have been given care and treatment far more intensively than in former years; the general case fatality rate nearly cut in two, and the Mexican rate still more sharply reduced. The "white" rate was cut from 13.4 to 7.4 and the Mexican rate from 22.9 to 9.6. The greater decrease in the Mexican rate is credited to the fact that it was so much higher when the situation was taken in hand by the County Health Department, and for this reason the county had to assume a more complete measure of authority. But in spite of all their efforts the Mexican rate remains nearly a third higher than the white rate, and is considered by the health authorities as indicative of a fundamentally less sturdy stock. The number of cases of communicable disease, number resulting in deaths and the case fatality rate, for the total population, white and Mexicans, are given in the following table:

TABLE 9. NUMBER OF CASES OF COMMUNICABLE DISEASE IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY (UNINCORPORATED AREA), RESULTING DEATHS, AND CASE FATALITY RATE, FOR TOTAL POPULATION, WHITE POPULATION AND MEXICANS, 1921–1927.[11]

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CASES

Year	Total	White		Mexican	
		Number	Per cent of total	Number	Per cent of total
1921	3,215	2,724	84.72	340	10.58
1922	4,831	3,999	82.77	568	11.76
1923	5,197	4,298	82.70	710	13.66
1924	8,142	6,839	84.00	1,145	14.06
1925	5,815	4,566	78.52	1,125	19.35
1926	6,225	4,786	76.88	1,252	20.11
1927	10,200	8,097	79.38	1,905	18.68
Total	43,625	35,309	80.94	7,045	16.15

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE DEATHS

1921	468	365	77.99	80	17.09
1922	640	440	68.75	123	19.22
1923	784	553	70.54	184	23.47
1924	881	611	69.35	223	25.31
1925	801	557	69.54	202	25.22
1926	722	504	69.81	174	24.01
1927	826	601	72.76	183	22.15
Total	5,122	3,631	70.89	1,169	22.82

CASE FATALITY RATE PER 100 CASES

Year	Total	White population	Mexican population
1921	14.56	13.40	23.53
1922	13.25	11.00	21.65
1923	15.09	12.87	25.92
1924	10.82	8.93	19.47
1925	13.77	12.20	17.96
1926	11.60	10.53	13.90
1927	8.10	7.42	9.61
Total	11.74	10.28	16.59

Tuberculosis.

The prevalence of tuberculosis among the Mexican population of California is one of the outstanding problems of health and relief agencies wherever Mexicans are found in large numbers. Statistics from the Los Angeles County Health Department for the unincorporated area of the county indicate this condition. In 1921 all deaths of Mexicans (211) represented 11.5 per cent of the total deaths (1835)[26] in that area, while as is indicated in the following table Mexican deaths from tuberculosis amounted to 14.8 per cent of the total due to that cause. In 1927 all deaths of Mexicans (459) represented 13.9 per cent of the total deaths (3303), while among the deaths due to tuberculosis Mexican deaths represented 19.6 per cent, while in 1925 it will be noted that Mexican deaths from tuberculosis were almost one-fourth (24.0 per cent) of all deaths from that disease. The increasing proportion of all Mexican deaths in that area is probably due to the increasing proportion of Mexicans in the population; but the Mexican proportion of deaths from tuberculosis has increased much more rapidly than their proportion of all deaths.

Segregated statistics of deaths from tuberculosis disclose the fact that in 1929 Mexicans constituted over one-fifth of all deaths from tuberculosis, where eight years earlier they had represented only one-seventh. Undoubtedly the increase is due in part to the increasing proportion of Mexicans in the population, but the addition to the population of tubercular whites largely offsets this factor. The number of tuberculosis deaths for the past nine years is given in the following table:

TABLE 10. TOTAL NUMBER OF TUBERCULOSIS DEATHS IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY, NUMBER OF WHITE AND MEXICAN DEATHS, AND PER CENT WHICH THEY CONSTITUTE OF THE TOTAL, 1921–1929.[27]

Year	*Total cases*	*Number White*	*Per cent of total*	*Number Mexican*	*Per cent of total*
1921	297	241	81.1	44	14.8
1922	355	296	83.4	49	13.8
1923	427	315	73.8	83	19.4
1924	475	358	75.4	90	18.9
1925	429	304	70.9	103	24.0
1926	394	287	72.8	85	21.6
1927	459	343	74.7	90	19.6
1928	471	344	73.0	102	21.6
1929	461	340	73.7	98	21.2

Comparable figures regarding the prevalence of tuberculosis among Mexicans in other sections of the state are not available, but the seriousness of the situation is borne out by a census taken of all cases under observation in the tuberculosis clinic maintained by the Los Angeles City Health Department,[28] on June 1, 1928. Out of 1516 patients, which included diagnosed cases, pretubercular cases, patients under observation and contact cases, 413 or 27 per cent of the total, were Mexican. As Mexicans are estimated to constitute about 10 per cent of the city's population, the fact that he totals over one-fourth of

[26] See Table 7, page 183.

[27] From the records of the Los Angeles County Health Department.

[28] From the records of the Los Angeles City Health Department.

the clientele of the tuberculosis clinics is probably due in part to poverty and the necessity of seeking free treatment, but undoubtedly reflects also a high general tuberculosis rate among the Mexican population.

For further information upon the prevalence and seriousness of tuberculosis among the Mexicans a detailed study was made by the Los Angeles County Charities Department on May 1, 1926,[29] of the cases on aid at that date in which tuberculosis was involved. From that study certain significant facts and comparisons may be drawn.

Total number of cases in Outdoor Relief Department	6,979
Number of Mexican cases	1,573
Percentage Mexican of total	22.5
Total number of cases where tuberculosis was involved	956
Percentage tuberculosis cases of total cases	13.7
Total Mexican cases where tuberculosis was involved	374
Percentage Mexican tuberculosis cases of total Mexican cases	23.8
Total non-Mexican cases	5,406
Number non-Mexican cases where tuberculosis was involved	582
Percentage non-Mexican tuberculosis cases of total non-Mexican cases	10.8
Percentage Mexican tuberculosis cases of total tuberculosis cases	39.1

From these figures it will be noted that nearly two-fifths of all tuberculosis cases in which county relief was granted were Mexican, and nearly a fourth of all Mexican relief cases involved tuberculosis, while only one-tenth of all non-Mexican cases involved tuberculosis.

Seven-eighths of the heads of the Mexican families having tuberculosis were born in Mexico, but nearly four-fifths had been in the United States over five years. The dates of arrival in the United States of these families were checked very carefully. If accurate, the large number developing tuberculosis after being in the country five years or more would indicate living conditions in this country tending towards the development of the disease, and probably, a fundamentally susceptible stock.

	Number	*Per cent of total*
Total number of families	374	100.0
Heads of families born in United States	51	13.6
Heads arrived in United States within five years	29	7.7
Heads arrived in United States over five years	292	78.1
Unknown	2	0.6

A check-up on the living quarters of these 374 families indicates that half were still living in overcrowded conditions, after improvements had been effected in many cases by the county. Provisions for space were reported by the workers as fully as adequate as that of neighboring families. The tabulation of room space gives a fair picture of general overcrowding among Mexican families. The 374 families studied consisted of 1571 persons, or an average of 4.2 per family, which is less than the size of the average Mexican family, as indicated in other studies.[30]

[29] Los Angeles County Charities Department: Summary of cases in which tuberculosis was a factor. 1926.

[30] The studies (see page 178) made by the Los Angeles County Health Department indicated averages of 4.7 and 4.8 per family. A study of all its Mexican cases made by the Los Angeles County Charities, January, 1929, indicated an average of 4.6 persons per family.

TABLE 11. NUMBER OF MEMBERS IN THE FAMILY AND NUMBER OF ROOMS OCCUPIED BY A GROUP OF 374 MEXICAN FAMILIES, SURVEYED BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHARITIES.

	Total	1 room	2 rooms	3 rooms	4 rooms	5 rooms	6 rooms
Total families	374	35	82	124	95	23	15
1 in family	23	10	5	7	1	--	--
2 in family	41	4	23	8	5	1	--
3 in family	56	8	16	19	11	2	--
4 in family	40	5	7	15	10	2	1
5 in family	72	1	6	40	18	3	4
6 in family	42	1	12	7	19	3	--
7 in family	42	2	6	13	11	4	6
8 in family	23	--	6	7	9	--	1
9 in family	19	1	--	5	6	4	3
10 in family	6	--	1	1	2	2	--
11 in family	5	--	--	2	2	1	--
12 in family	5	3	--	--	1	1	--

As a relief problem, these 374 Mexican families had cost at the time of the survey $292,406.54. How much more has been expended upon them since that time has not been computed. The type of aid given is summarized:

Total cases	374
State aid only	27
State and county aid	58
County aid only	261
Supervision only	28

The cost of care of these 374 Mexican families amounted to:

Average monthly aid given per family	$37 30
Average amount given per case	781 30
Total amount given for the past 12 months	154,851 60
Total amount given to date of survey	292,406 54

As an index of sickness and the need of care which public health agencies are called upon to meet the record was compiled[31] of the Women's Venereal Clinic of the Los Angeles City Health Department for the three years' period, 1925–26–27, which indicated:

Total cases handled by the bureau	2,772
Number Mexican cases handled by the bureau	1,140
Percentage Mexican of total	41.1

As a further index of sickness and the need of health service, a compilation[31] was made of the number of cases active in the nursing division of the Los Angeles City Health Department on January 30th of each year since 1920, which indicates that Mexicans constituted from one-third to nearly one-half of the persons served by the nursing division. The increase in service rendered to American families in the last few years is due to the establishment of well-baby clinics in certain nonimmigrant districts, an educational service not reflecting either sickness or poverty. The other groups served by the nursing division reflect directly the measures taken by the City Health Department to meet the pressing problems of poverty, sickness, and ignorance.

[31] Compilation by Los Angeles City Health Department, 1930.

TABLE 12. TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES, NUMBER OF AMERICANS, MEXICANS AND OTHER NATIONALITIES ON THE ACTIVE FILES OF THE LOS ANGELES CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, DIVISION OF NURSING, ON JANUARY 30 OF EACH YEAR, 1920–1930.

Jan. 30th. Year	*Total cases*	*Americans*	*Mexicans*	*Other—Negro, Oriental and all foreign groups*
1920	2,858	599 (21%)	1,053 (37%)	1,206 (42%)
1921	4,496	1,152 (26%)	1,908 (42%)	1,436 (32%)
1922	4,779	1,412 (29%)	1,921 (40%)	1,446 (31%)
1923	4,987	1,605 (32%)	2,015 (41%)	1,357 (27%)
1924	4,966	1,405 (28%)	2,205 (44%)	1,356 (28%)
1925	5,721	2,010 (35%)	2,387 (42%)	1,424 (23%)
1926	6,760	2,690 (40%)	2,360 (35%)	1,710 (25%)
1927	6,963	2,879 (41%)	2,326 (33%)	1,758 (26%)
1928	7,645	3,211 (42%)	2,446 (32%)	1,988 (26%)
1929	8,220	3,607 (44%)	2,546 (31%)	2,067 (25%)
1930	8,665	3,636 (42%)	2,544 (29%)	2,485 (29%)

Mexicans in the State Hospitals.

The care of the insane and feeble-minded is one of the increasing burdens of public charity. At the present time all of the state institutions are overcrowded[32] and only the cases most urgently in need of institutional care can be given treatment. Under these conditions, fewer admissions have been made in recent years than would have been made if facilities had permitted the admission of all cases where state care is desirable. The factor of deportation also affects analysis of these figures, since an alien who becomes insane within five years after entry may be deported. In the biennium, 1927–8, 218 Mexican patients were admitted to state hospitals, of which number 88 (40 per cent) were deported by federal authorities.[33] The policy of deportation accounts for the fact, as given in the following tables, that the proportion of Mexican inmates is much less than the proportion of Mexicans admitted to the hospitals. The possibility of deportation undoubtedly serves also as a deterrent to the reporting of milder cases.

The following table gives the total number of inmates of each of the state hospitals and the institutions for the feeble-minded and the number of Mexicans:

State Institutions.

TABLE 13. POPULATION IN STATE INSTITUTIONS FOR INSANE AND FEEBLE-MINDED, APRIL, 1928, NUMBER OF MEXICANS, AND PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICANS REPRESENT OF TOTAL.[34]

Locality	*Institution*	*Total inmates*	*Number Mexican inmates*	*Percentage Mexicans of total*
	Total insane and feeble-minded	19,609	531	2.7
	Total insane	13,715	401	2.9
Ukiah	State Hospital for Insane	1,199	16	1.3
Napa	State Hospital for Insane	2,908	18	.6
Agnews	State Hospital for Insane	1,978	15	.8
Stockton	State Hospital for Insane	3,169	72	2.3
Norwalk	State Hospital for Insane	1,628	108	6.6
Patton	State Hospital for Insane	2,833	172	6.1
	Total feeble-minded	5,894	130	2.2
Eldridge	Sonoma	5,788	116	2.0
Spadra	Pacific Colony	106	14	13.2

[32] "The six mental hospitals, with a capacity of 12,194, have 13,797 inmate population. On July 1, 1926, this group had a population of 12,712 with a capacity of 11,790. * * * The two homes for the feeble-minded, with a capacity of 2238, have an inmate population of 2,364." Biennial Report, State Department of Institutions, 1928, pp. 9, 10.

[33] Department of Institutions Biennial Report, p. 19.

TABLE 14. TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS ADMITTED TO STATE INSTITUTIONS FOR THE INSANE AND FEEBLE-MINDED 1922-3 TO 1927-8, BY YEARS, NUMBER OF MEXICANS ADMITTED, AND PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICANS REPRESENT OF TOTAL.[34]

	Total admissions insane and feeble-minded			*Admissions to hospitals for insane*			*Admissions to institutions for feeble-minded*		
Year	*Total*	*Number Mexicans*	*Percentage Mexicans of total*	*Total*	*Number Mexicans*	*Percentage Mexicans of total*	*Total*	*Number Mexicans*	*Percentage Mexicans of total*
1922–1923	3,684	110	3.0	3,385	102	3.0	299	8	2.7
1923–1924	4,046	161	4.0	3,736	153	4.1	310	8	2.6
1924–1925	4,280	161	3.8	3,860	154	4.0	420	7	1.7
1925–1926	4,229	192	4.5	3,782	174	4.6	447	18	4.0
1926–1927	4,325	190	4.4	3,871	155	4.0	454	35	7.7
1927–1928	4,815	218	4.5	4,349	186	4.3	466	32	6.9

For the year 1922–1923 Mexicans constituted 3 per cent of the total admissions to hospitals for the insane and 2.7 per cent of admissions to institutions for the feeble-minded. In 1927–1928 Mexicans admitted to the hospitals for the insane had increased to 4.3 per cent of the total, an increase of nearly 50 per cent in five years, and in the institutions for the feeble-minded the number of Mexicans increased in the same period of five years from 2.7 per cent to 6.9 per cent of all persons admitted.

THE DEPENDENCE OF MEXICANS UPON CHARITY

Mexican Families Receiving State Aid.

State aid is granted in California to orphans, half orphans and certain classes of children whose fathers are tubercular or completely incapacitated. On January 1, 1928, aid was paid to 5288 families, representing a total of 13,105 children. Of this total 515 families were Mexican which represents 9.7 per cent of the total number of families. Family groups among the Mexicans being larger than among the general population brought the total number of Mexican children receiving aid slightly above one-tenth of the total.

Among the conditions of eligibility for aid is that of legal residence within the state for at least two years. Largely on account of this requirement the eight counties of southern California, because of the recent arrival of a large part of their population, received in 1928 only 30.8 per cent of the total amount of state aid, although their estimated population was about half that of the entire state. This residence condition renders many needy Mexican families ineligible to aid from the state, since many have resided in the state less than two years. Also, state aid may not be paid to a family which entered the state in a dependent condition, and this condition also renders many Mexican families ineligible. From the fact that one-tenth of all state aid to children is now paid to Mexican families and that residence qualifications render many other needy Mexican families ineligible to aid, it becomes evident that poverty and need are proportionately more common among the Mexicans than among the general population of the state. In Los Angeles County Mexicans represented one-fourth[35] of the families receiving state aid. As they are estimated to comprise

[34] From official records of the Department of Social Welfare.

[35] Records of the Department of Social Welfare.

about 11 per cent of the population, their greater general poverty and need is indicated.

Dependent Children in Institutions.

Information concerning the racial background of all children in all orphanages and other institutions for dependent children was secured by the Department of Social Welfare as of April 1, 1928. These institutions were caring for a total of 5357 children, of which number 416, or 7.8 per cent, were Mexican. Among the institutions in northern California only 85 Mexican children were being cared for out of a total of 3019, but in the southern counties Mexican children numbered 331 out of 2338, or 14.1 per cent, and in the institutions in Los Angeles County practically one-sixth (16.4 per cent) of all the children were Mexican. As a number of the institutions accept no Mexicans, the proportion in the rest of the institutions becomes conspicuously high.

TABLE 15. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN GENERAL INSTITUTIONS FOR DEPENDENT CHILDREN, NUMBER OF MEXICAN CHILDREN, AND PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICANS REPRESENTED OF TOTAL, APRIL 1, 1928, BY COUNTIES AND DIVISIONS.

	Total number children	*Number Mexican children*	*Percentage Mexicans of total*
Total	5,357	416	7.8
Northern counties	3,019	85	2.8
Sacramento	200	12	6.0
Mendocino	185	5	2.7
Nevada	104	1	1.0
Sonoma	185	4	2.2
Marin	499	17	3.4
San Francisco	899	29	3.2
Alameda	265	3	1.1
Others	682	14	2.0
Southern counties	2,338	331	14.1
Los Angeles	1,829	300	16.4
San Diego	219	26	11.9
Santa Barbara	175	2	1.1
Ventura	15	---	---
Riverside	100	3	3.0
Orange, San Bernardino and Imperial	None	---	---

County Relief in Los Angeles County.

Financial relief to the needy in Los Angeles County is administered almost entirely by the Outdoor Relief Division of the County Charities Department, the Community Chest and other private charities devoting their efforts and resources to family welfare, clinics and other health services, and other community welfare projects. A statement of the funds given by the county charities in total and to Mexicans, therefore, covers the bulk of financial relief given in that area.

In the following table is given the total number of cases and the number of Mexican cases on county relief for the five years, 1923–4 to 1927–8. In 1924–5 Mexican cases ran over one-third of the total, but for the other years they have represented approximately one-fourth. The total amount of money given in relief has risen from $938,167 in 1923–4 to $1,509,780 in 1927–8. The amounts paid to the Mexican families have not been segregated so that it is not possible to state whether the amounts given to them are greater or less than their proportion of the total number of cases.

TABLE 16. TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES CARED FOR BY THE OUTDOOR RELIEF DEPARTMENT OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHARITIES, NUMBER OF MEXICAN CASES, AND PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICANS CONSTITUTE OF THE TOTAL, 1923-4 TO 1927-8.

Year	Total number cases	Number Mexican cases	Per cent Mexican of total
1923–1924	10,654	2,651	24.9
1924–1925	14,251	5,140	36.1
1925–1926	11,437	3,156	27.6
1926–1927	11,730	3,162	26.9
1927–1928	13,261	3,248	24.5

In addition to relief given through the County Charities Department, the only agency administering a considerable relief budget is the Catholic Welfare Bureau. In the accompanying table are given the number of children cared for during 1924, 1926, 1927, and six months of 1928. Nearly half of all the children cared for are Mexican, but less than half of the funds expended were for their care. In family relief the bureau has cared for a far smaller proportion of Mexican families.

TABLE 17. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHILDREN AND NUMBER OF MEXICAN CHILDREN CARED FOR BY THE CATHOLIC WELFARE BUREAU, 1924 TO 1928; WITH AMOUNTS EXPENDED FOR ALL CHILDREN AND FOR MEXICAN CHILDREN; WITH PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICANS CONSTITUTE OF TOTAL.

Year	Total number children cared for	Number Mexican children cared for	Per cent Mexican children of total	Amount paid for board of all children	Amount paid for board of Mexican children	Per cent of total paid for Mexican children
1924	530	385	72.6	$102,771	$43,164	42.0
1925	(Records incomplete)					
1926	770	352	45.7	62,500	27,500	44.0
1927	561	258	46.0	45,972	15,040	32.7
1928 (6 mos.)	457	232	50.8			

TABLE 17A. TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES ON RELIEF BY THE CATHOLIC WELFARE BUREAU OF LOS ANGELES, NUMBER OF MEXICAN CASES; TOTAL EXPENDED IN RELIEF; AMOUNT GIVEN TO MEXICANS; WITH PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICANS REPRESENT OF TOTAL.

Year	Total families given relief	Number Mexican families given relief	Per cent Mexicans to total	Total family relief given	Amount family relief to Mexicans	Per cent Mexican family relief of total
1924	----	---	---	$41,779	$10,444	25.0
1925	----	---	---	-----	-----	---
1926	2,271	386	17.0	36,032	9,534	26.5
1927	1,586	210	13.2	37,148	11,000	29.6
1928 (6 mos.)	1,828	471	25.8	20,895	3,717	17.8

Service to Mexicans by Los Angeles Chest Agencies.

To supplement the statistics of financial relief in Los Angeles County the Los Angeles Community Chest was asked by the Department of Social Welfare to have all chest agencies serving any Mexicans in their clientele make a segregation in their records so that the proportion of service to Mexicans could be shown. Segregated records were kept from June 1 to November 1, 1928, by 17 agencies. As there are over a hundred agencies in the chest it will be noted that about five-sixths of the agencies serve no Mexicans, but among those serving Mexicans are several of the largest charitable agencies of the city.

Hospital and clinic service and family welfare are the chief fields of service of these agencies. Practically no relief was given except through the Catholic Welfare Bureau.

TABLE 18. TOTAL NUMBER OF CLIENTS AND NUMBER OF MEXICAN CLIENTS SERVED BY SELECTED CHEST AGENCIES OF LOS ANGELES, JUNE 1, 1928, TO NOVEMBER 1, 1928; WITH PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICAN CLIENTS CONSTITUTED OF THE TOTAL.

	Total number clients	*Number Mexican clients*	*Percentage Mexicans of total*
Allen C. Cowperthwaite Clinic	528	428	81.1
Assistance League, Wilmington Unit	78	39	50.0
California Babies' Hospital	1,219	121	9.9
Catholic Big Brothers	406	254	62.6
Catholic Welfare Bureau	1,431	473	33.1
Children's Home Society of California	148	10	6.7
Children's Hospital Society			
Hospital Beds	965	157	16.3
Medical Clinic	1,201	447	37.2
Orthopedic Clinic	368	121	32.9
Physiotherapy	1,776	87	4.9
Convent of Good Shepherd	266	109	41.0
Crippled Children's Guild	1,767	42	2.4
Goodwill Industries of Southern California	402	179	44.5
Juvenile Protective Association	2,077	43	2.1
Los Angeles 10th District P.T.A.	6,038	3,309	54.8
Plaza Community Center	1,213	1,175	96.9
Salvation Army Women's Home	93	9	9.7
Travelers' Aid Society	2,452	128	5.2
Santa Rita Clinic	1,415	742	52.4
Catholic Welfare Bureau, San Pedro	317	165	52.1

Public Care of the Tubercular, Los Angeles County.

Olive View Sanitarium, a county institution for the needy tubercular, was established in 1924 to meet the problem of tuberculosis care of those who have to appeal to the county charities for treatment. Its original purpose of caring primarily for curable cases has been changed under the pressure of need to the general care of the tubercular and the removal from the community of serious cases threatening infection to others. The institution reports that the prevalence of tuberculosis among the Mexican population is sufficient to utilize all the facilities of the sanitarium for that group alone but the number cared for reflect mainly the policy of removing from the community persons who are foci of infection. The cost of care and treatment given at Olive View in the fiscal year 1926–7 amounted to $746,927. The number and proportion of Mexicans cared for is given in the following table:

TABLE 19. TOTAL NUMBER OF PATIENTS AND NUMBER OF MEXICANS CARED FOR AT OLIVE VIEW SANITARIUM (LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHARITIES TUBERCULAR INSTITUTION) 1924–5 TO 1929–30; WITH PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICANS REPRESENT OF TOTAL.[36]

Year	*Total number inmates*	*Number Mexicans inmates*	*Per cent Mexicans of total*
1924–1925	669	80	12.0
1925–1926	1,160	256	22.1
1926–1927	1,262	280	22.2
1927–1928	1,336	320	23.9
1928–1929	1,376	322	23.4
1929–1930	1,496	350	23.4

Public Care of Indigents at the Los Angeles County Farm.

For the care of the indigent aged the Los Angeles County Charities conducts a county farm at which institution the cost of care and treat-

[36] From the records of the Los Angeles County Charities Department.

ment of inmates totaled $913,156 in 1926–7. Comparatively few Mexicans are sent to the farm, their standard of living, racial clannishness and national food habits making assistance to them in their own group a happier solution of their needs. The number and proportion of Mexicans cared for at the county farm 1925–6 to 1928–9 is given in the following table. Previous to 1925 no record of inmates by races was kept.

TABLE 20. TOTAL NUMBER OF INMATES AT LOS ANGELES COUNTY FARM AND NUMBER OF MEXICAN INMATES JUNE 30, 1926, 1927, AND 1928, WITH PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICANS REPRESENTED OF TOTAL.

Year	Total population	Mexican population	Percentage Mexicans of total
1925–1926	1,688	75	4.4
1926–1927	1,743	81	4.6
1927–1928	1,861	73	3.9

Hospital Care of Mexicans, Los Angeles County Hospital.

Aid in the form of free medical and hospital service has come to be a most important item of public charity. A survey made by the State Department of Public Health covering the service rendered to Mexicans by the Los Angeles General (County) Hospital for two years July 1, 1922, to June 30, 1924,[37] disclosed the fact that the care and treatment given to Mexicans during that period cost the county $2,358,088 or well over a million dollars a year. Since that time the number of Mexicans cared for in the hospital has increased over a third.

In 1919–20 the number of Mexican patients totaled 11.3 per cent of the total, and this percentage increased irregularly to 18.4 in 1926–27, but dropped to 15.4 in 1927–28. The record by years, 1919–20 to 1927–28, is given in the following table:

TABLE 21, TOTAL NUMBER OF PATIENTS ADMITTED TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL AND NUMBER OF MEXICAN PATIENTS ADMITTED, WITH PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICANS REPRESENTED OF TOTAL, 1919–20 TO 1929–30.[38]

Fiscal year	Total number patients admitted	Total number of Mexicans (birth or parentage) admitted	Percentage of patients of Mexican birth or parentage
1919–1920	12,392	1,396	11.26
1920–1921	13,476	1,712	12.70
1921–1922	15,537	1,863	11.99
1922–1923	17,298	2,653	15.34
1923–1924	20,743	3,424	16.51
1924–1925	20,778	3,679	17.71
1925–1926	20,528	3,673	17.89
1926–1927	23,139	4,267	18.44
1927–1928	26,243	4,031	15.36
1928–1929	30,864	5,284	17.12
1929–1930	31,375	5,516	17.58

County Relief in Orange County.

From the records of the Orange County Social Service Department a tabulation was made of the cases covering a two-year period 1925 to 1927 to determine how large a factor the Mexican represented in the relief problem of that county. From this tabulation it will be noted that nearly one-half of all the cases assisted by Orange County during

[37] Statistical Study of Sickness among the Mexicans in the Los Angeles County Hospital, 1922–1924. State Department of Health, Sacramento, 1924.

[38] From the records of Los Angeles County Hospital.

the two years were Mexican, and owing to their larger families a slightly larger percentage of the individuals affected were of that race. The number of Mexican births in Orange County in 1928, 612 out of a total of 1945, or 31.5 per cent of the total, indicates the large proportion of Mexicans in the county:

TABLE 22. THE TABULATION OF CASES ASSISTED BY THE ORANGE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT, 1926-7 AND 1927-8, WITH NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL REPRESENTED BY MEXICANS.[39]

	1926–7	*1927–8*
Total number of cases	501	592
Number Mexican cases	231	258
Per cent Mexican of total	46.1	43.6
Total individuals assisted	2,005	2,331
Number Mexican individuals	1,056	1,153
Per cent Mexican of total	52.7	49.5
Total families assisted	416	499
Number Mexican families assisted	209	222
Per cent Mexican of total	50.2	44.5
Total single men assisted	50	43
Number Mexican single men assisted	8	14
Per cent Mexican of total	16.0	32.5
Total single women assisted	35	50
Number Mexican women assisted	14	22
Per cent Mexican of total	40.0	44.0

County Relief in Riverside County.

From the records of the County Welfare and Relief Department of Riverside a summary of the amount of relief given to all cases and to Mexican cases for five years beginning 1923–4, made by that department, is given below. As the cases were recorded partly as families and partly as individuals the number of either families or individuals can not be clearly shown. In 1923–4 and 1924–5 well over a third of all relief was given to Mexicans, but in 1925–6, 1926–7 and 1927–8 the percentage decreased to slightly less than a third. The percentage of Mexican births in Riverside County in 1928, 545 out of a total of 1504, or 36.2 per cent, indicates the large percentage of Mexicans in that county.

TABLE 23. TOTAL AMOUNT OF COUNTY RELIEF GIVEN IN RIVERSIDE COUNTY, AMOUNT GIVEN TO MEXICANS, AND PERCENTAGE WHICH AMOUNT GIVEN TO MEXICANS REPRESENTED OF THE TOTAL, 1923-4 TO 1927-8, INCLUSIVE.[40]

Year	*Total amount given in relief*	*Amount given to Mexicans*	*Percentage amount to Mexicans of total*
1923–1924	$18,465	$7,000	37.9
1924–1925	20,229	7,823	38.7
1925–1926	20,856	6,583	31.6
1926–1927	22,255	7,290	32.8
1927–1928	26,922	8,419	31.3

County Relief in San Diego County.

From the records of the County Welfare Department of San Diego a summary of the total number of cases and the number of Mexican cases, together with the amounts of aid given to both groups, was made for the five years, from 1923 to 1928. In 1928 the number of Mexican births in that county was 703 out of a total of 3403, or 20.7 per cent. From the table below it will be noted that the percentage of Mexican cases was slightly less than the percentage of Mexican births in 1928.

[39] From the records of the Orange County Welfare Department.

[40] From the records of the County Welfare and Relief Department of Riverside.

On the average amount of relief given to Mexican and non-Mexican cases little difference is to be noted; in two out of the five years the Mexican cases averaged less relief, but in three of the years the average amount given was greater.

TABLE 24. TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES AND NUMBER OF MEXICAN CASES RECEIVING RELIEF FROM THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENT, 1923 TO 1927, INCLUSIVE, WITH AMOUNTS GIVEN IN AID TO THE TOTAL CASES AND THE MEXICAN CASES, AND PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICAN CASES AND RELIEF REPRESENTED OF THE TOTAL; WITH AVERAGE AMOUNTS GIVEN PER CASE, MEXICAN AND NON-MEXICAN, EACH YEAR.[41]

Year	Cases on relief		Per cent Mexican of total	Total relief given	Amount given to Mexicans	Per cent Mexican of total	Average given per case	
	Total	Mexican					Non-Mexican	Mexican
1923	485	90	18.6	$35,717	$7,143	20.0	$72 34	$79 37
1924	615	109	17.7	36,192	6,032	16.7	59 60	55 34
1925	650	127	19.5	34,008	6,032	17.7	53 49	47 50
1926	772	127	16.5	41,494	6,916	16.7	53 61	54 46
1927	892	165	18.5	51,081	10,216	20.0	56 21	61 91

County Relief in San Joaquin County.

From the records of the San Joaquin County Welfare Department a summary was made by that department of the total cases and of Mexican cases for the five years beginning 1923, indicating the total and the number of Mexican cases, the number of individuals involved, and the amounts given for each year. Mexican births in San Joaquin County in 1928 numbered 121 out of a total of 1633, or 7.4 per cent, which is less than half the general percentage of Mexican births for the entire state, but the records present certain significant facts. The size of the Mexican families averaged 4.7 persons, while the non-Mexican families averaged 3.7. The proportion which Mexican cases represented of the whole increased irregularly from 9.7 per cent to 12.6 per cent. The amount of aid given per case to non-Mexicans decreased steady from an average of $194.85 in 1923 to $146.92 in 1927; while the average amount of relief given the Mexican cases, which in 1923 was less than half that given to non-Mexicans, increased, with a sharp increase in 1927 which made the average amount given per Mexican case greater than that given to non-Mexican cases. This increase in amounts given to Mexican cases is due chiefly to the sharp increase in the number of Mexican families given state aid. In 1927 approximately one-sixth of all families receiving state aid for children in San Joaquin County were Mexican, although the Mexican population of the county, as indicated by the birth statistics, would presumably be a very much smaller proportion.

TABLE 25. TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES AND NUMBER OF MEXICAN CASES RECEIVING RELIEF FROM THE SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY WELFARE DEPARTMENT, 1923 TO 1927, INCLUSIVE, WITH AMOUNTS GIVEN IN AID TO THE TOTAL CASES AND THE MEXICAN CASES, AND THE AVERAGE AMOUNT GIVEN TO EACH NON-MEXICAN AND MEXICAN CASE.

Year	Total cases	Number Mexican cases	Per cent Mexican of total	Total relief given	Amount given to Mexicans	Per cent Mexican of total	Average amount given to cases non-Mexican	Mexican
1923	310	30	9.7	$57,131	$2,568	4.5	$194 87	$85 60
1924	374	38	10.2	65,216	3,061	4.7	184 98	80 55
1925	416	41	9.9	71,581	4,081	5.7	180 00	99 54
1926	470	70	14.9	73,272	7,113	9.7	165 40	101 61
1927	525	66	12.6	79,225	10,775	13.6	149 13	163 26

[41] From the records of the San Diego Welfare Department.

CRIME AND DELINQUENCY AMONG THE MEXICAN POPULATION

Statistics of crime and delinquency of the Mexican element in the state in comparison with corresponding figures for the general population serve as an index of racial or national characteristics and also as an index of the adjustment or lack of adjustment of the Mexican to American customs and standards.

Mexicans in Prisons.

California at the present time has two state prisons, first offenders usually being committed to San Quentin and the recidivists and more dangerous criminals to Folsom. In the following table are given the total number of prisoners at San Quentin on June 30th of each year for the past twenty years, the number of Mexicans, together with the number of commitments of all prisoners and of Mexicans each year, and the percentage which the Mexicans represent of the total. No attempt is made to give separate figures for Mexicans born in the United States and those born in Mexico, as the prison authorities consider that their figures are not accurate, since the possibility of deportation at the end of their sentence influences some Mexicans born in Mexico to state that they were born in the United States.

TABLE 26. TOTAL NUMBER OF PRISONERS AND NUMBER OF MEXICAN PRISONERS RECEIVED AT SAN QUENTIN PRISON YEARLY AND NUMBER IN CONFINEMENT AT THE END OF EACH FISCAL YEAR, 1908-9 TO 1928-9.[42]

Year	Total prisoners June 30 of each year	Number Mexican prisoners June 30 of each year	Per cent Mexicans of total	Total prisoners received during the year	Number Mexican prisoners received during the year	Per cent Mexicans of total
1908–1909	1,814	87	4.8	713	36	5.0
1909–1910	1,922	110	5.7	739	44	6.0
1910–1911	1,881	119	6.3	632	40	6.3
1911–1912	1,937	129	6.6	794	52	6.5
1912–1913	1,929	165	8.5	813	73	9.0
1913–1914	2,209	175	7.9	1,008	80	7.9
1914–1915	2,312	232	10.0	983	98	10.0
1915–1916	2,308	184	8.0	1,108	89	8.0
1916–1917	2,160	181	8.4	987	83	8.4
1917–1918	1,930	251	13.0	1,140	148	13.0
1918–1919	1,817	235	12.9	946	123	13.0
1919–1920	1,848	237	12.8	1,048	135	12.9
1920–1921	2,030	245	12.1	1,225	142	11.6
1921–1922	2,616	271	10.3	1,501	157	10.5
1922–1923	2,648	249	9.4	1,460	125	8.6
1923–1924	3,026	330	10.9	1,558	177	11.4
1924–1925	3,284	412	12.5	1,406	188	13.4
1925–1926	3,512	429	12.2	1,363	164	12.0
1926–1927	3,812	493	12.9	1,420	179	12.6
1927–1928	4,434	561	12.6	1,836	233	12.7
1928–1929	4,887	620	12.7	1,612	191	11.8
Total received				24,292	2,557	10.5

From this table it will be noted that on June 30, 1909, there were 87 Mexicans in San Quentin out of a total prison population of 1814, or 4.8 per cent and during that year the Mexicans committed to San Quentin represented 5 per cent of the total. From 1909 the number and proportion of Mexicans increased fairly steadily until 1918; and since that time they have remained approximately one-eighth of the total prisoners and the same proportion as to yearly commitments.

Comparable statistics from Folsom Prison, indicating the number of Mexican prisoners committed each year and the number in prison

[42] From the records of San Quentin Prison.

at the end of each year in comparison with the total are not available; but the total number of prisoners and the number of Mexican prisoners in the institution September 30, 1929, classified according to crime, are given in the following table:

TABLE 27. TOTAL NUMBER OF PRISONERS IN FOLSOM PRISON, NUMBER OF MEXICAN PRISONERS, SEPTEMBER 30, 1929, BY CAUSE OF COMMITMENT.[48]

	Total	*Total Mexican*	*Per cent Mexican of total*
Total	2,083	138	6.6
Murder, manslaughter, etc.	169	14	8.3
Sex	117	8	6.8
Robbery	390	10	2.6
Burglary	568	54	9.5
Deadly weapons	64	8	12.5
Larceny, etc.	187	15	8.0
Forgery, bad checks	333	3	.9
Poison Act	71	11	15.5
Escapes	43	5	11.6
Motor Vehicle Act	59	1	1.7
All other	82	9	11.0

A comparison of the figures concerning the prisoners at Folsom indicates a much smaller percentage of Mexicans at that prison than among the first offenders at San Quentin, 6.6 per cent at Folsom, September 30, 1929, as against 12.7 per cent at San Quentin, June 30, 1929. The fact that a large part of the Mexicans in California have been in the state only a few years probably explains at least in part the smaller percentage of recidivists.

A comparison of the Mexicans with the total as to the nature of their crimes indicates that the offenses which proportionately they are most inclined to commit are violations of the State Poison Act, which relates to narcotics, and the carrying and assault with deadly weapons. The crimes which they rarely commit are forgery, which is to be expected among a people having a high rate of illiteracy and little familiarity with banking, and violations of the Motor Vehicle Act. The crime for which the largest number of Mexicans are sent to Folsom is burglary, which is true of the total prison population also, but the Mexicans represent more than their proportion of persons committed for burglary; and at the same time they have a comparatively low rate of commitment for robbery. In other figures relating to crime among the Mexicans this tendency towards a higher incidence of burglary as against a lower incidence of robbery, which latter crime includes personal encounter, is interesting to note.

On the point of infraction of rules a comparison of Mexicans with the general prisoners shows him to be a far more frequent violator. In 30 months ending September 30, 1929, Mexicans committed 212 infractions of rules out of a total of 946; that is, one-sixteenth of the prisoners committed over one-fifth of the infractions. This is explained in part as due to a more imperfect knowledge of English, rather than to any general tendency to insubordination.

A tabulation of certain other social data relating to the Mexican prisoners at Folsom indicates their general background. Educationally their status is far lower than the American standard, as indicated by the following tabulation:

[48] From the records of Folsom Prison.

Total number of Mexican prisoners at Folsom, September 30, 1929	138
Number with no education	35
Number with 1–4 years' schooling	49
Number with 5–8 years' schooling	48
Number with over 8 years' schooling	6
Number with university or professional education	none

By occupation the Mexican prisoners reflect largely their background of unskilled labor:

Total number of Mexican prisoners at Folsom, September 30, 1929	138
Number of laborers	88
Number in skilled trades (carpenters, painters, barbers, etc.)	38
Number of ranchers	7
Number of servants	5

The 1910 census gives the population of California as 2,377,549 of which number 51,037, or 2.1 per cent were native born Mexicans. The 1920 census records 3,426,861 as the total population of the state of which number 86,610, or 2.5 per cent were native born Mexicans. In the absence of a recent census, it is not possible to draw any close comparison of the incidence of crime among the Mexican population as compared with the general population. It would appear to be very high but the comparison is affected by the fact that more men than women have entered the country and the age distribution gives a larger proportion of Mexicans in the age groups most commonly found in prison. Police officials generally state a greater tendency among arrested Mexicans to plead guilty to charges and the common financial inability to extended defense and appeal of cases, both of which causes undoubtedly increase the apparent crime among the Mexicans.

Mexicans in Correctional Schools.

California maintains two correctional schools for boys—Whittier State School for problem boys 8 to 16 years of age, and the Preston School of Industry for those 16 to 21.

Administration officials in the two state schools for boys have been sharply concerned during the past few years by the rapid increase in the number of Mexican boys committed to their care. By 1928 the proportion had increased to nearly one-fifth of all the boys at Preston and one-tenth of those at Whittier. The State School for Girls, however, shows a small number of Mexicans. In order to obtain a more complete picture of juvenile delinquency, statistics of Mexicans in the private correctional schools are added in the following table:

TABLE 28. NUMBER OF BOYS AND GIRLS IN ALL PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS FOR DELINQUENTS, BY SEX, AND NUMBER AND PERCENTAGE OF MEXICANS, APRIL 1, 1928.[41]

BOYS

		Total number	*Number Mexicans*	*Percentage Mexicans of total*
Total		1,228	145	11.8
Public		926	144	15.5
Waterman	Preston School of Industry	623	114	18.3
Whittier	Whittier State School	303	30	9.9
Private		302	1	.3
San Francisco	Boys' Aid	147	1	.7
Chino	California Junior Republic	102	None	----
Los Angeles	Strickland Home for Boys	53	None	----

[41] From the records of the State Department of Social Welfare.

GIRLS

		Total number	Number Mexicans	Percentage Mexicans of total
Total		494	97	19.6
Public		169	7	4.1
Private		325	90	27.7
Locality	*Institution*			
Ventura	Ventura School for Girls	169	7	4.1
San Francisco	St. Catherine's Training School	67	1	1.5
Alameda	California Girls' Training School	58	None	----
Los Angeles	Convent of the Good Shepherd	200	89	44.5

From the foregoing table it will be seen that 11.8 per cent of all boys in correctional schools, and 19.6 per cent of all girls are of Mexican race. In the state schools the proportion of Mexican boys, 15.5 per cent of the total is doubtless affected by the fact that the private schools accept virtually no Mexicans. Since the private schools deal, as a rule, with less serious cases, their apparent policy not to accept Mexican boys is probably in part responsible for the very large proportion of the older Mexican boys sent to Preston.

An examination into the nature of offenses for which commitments were made to Preston indicates very little difference between Mexican boys and the rest of the institution population. Fewer Mexicans were sent up for truancy which probably reflects the attitude of the authorities rather than frequency of offense; and petit larceny was also a less frequent cause of commitment. An explanation offered by the Los Angeles Police Department was not that Mexican boys committed larceny less frequently but that they were commonly sent to jail for that offense, rather than to Preston. Forgery, rare among native born Mexicans, was practically as common a cause for commitment among these Mexican boys at Preston who are mainly American born as among the other boys and doubtless reflects the greater familiarity among the American born with handwriting and banking.

TABLE 29. NUMBER OF ALL BOYS AND OF MEXICAN BOYS COMMITTED TO THE PRESTON SCHOOL OF INDUSTRY, BY NATURE OF OFFENSE, WITH PER CENT DISTRIBUTION, JUNE 30, 1928.[45]

	All boys		Mexican boys	
	Number	Per cent	Number	Per cent
Total	621	100.0	113	100.0
Assault with deadly weapon	2	.32	1	.89
Burglary	134	21.58	24	21.24
Carrying concealed weapon	1	.16	0	----
Extortion	5	.81	0	----
Embezzlement	3	.48	0	----
Forgery	51	8.21	9	7.96
Grand larceny	122	19.65	22	19.47
Immorality	8	1.29	1	0.89
Manslaughter	3	.48	1	.89
Petty larceny	82	13.21	5	4.42
Rape	3	.48	2	1.76
Robbery	43	6.92	5	4.42
Selling liquor	1	.16	1	.89
Receiving stolen property	1	.16	0	----
Sodomy	1	.16	0	----
Truancy	83	13.37	9	7.96
Violation of Poison Act	1	.16	1	.89
Violation of section 146 (Motor Vehicle Act)	77	12.40	32	28.32

No comparison can be made as to the nature of offenses of boys committed to Whittier, as the Juvenile Court Law prohibits the specifica-

[45] From the records of the Preston School of Industry.

tion of offense of these younger boys. The records of the institution indicate a decidedly lower degree of intelligence, after all allowance has been made for language difficulty.[46]

In considering the total figures of delinquency among girls it should be noted that the number of girls in private schools (325) greatly exceeds the number in the state school, and two out of the three private schools (representing over 80 per cent of the total inmates) are Catholic. As the Mexicans are mainly Catholic this will account in part for the large percentage of Mexican girls in private correctional schools. The large percentage of Mexican girls in private correctional schools reflects, therefore, the policy among the Catholics of giving institutional care to delinquent girls, rather than any comparison of delinquency among the Mexican girls.

To obtain a picture of crime, misdemeanor and general social maladjustment, records are here presented compiled from the office of the sheriff of Los Angeles County and the Police Department of Los Angeles city. Taken together these do not represent the whole county since other incorporated areas exist in the county from which comparable statistics could not be obtained. However, these figures reflect conditions in the largest settlement of Mexicans in California. The city represents a total population estimated at 1,300,000 of which the Mexicans are estimated at slightly over one-tenth. The county area to which the sheriff's figures apply includes a population estimated by the statistical division of that office to be between 300,000 and 400,000, with probably a slightly higher percentage of Mexicans than in the city.

A statistical system of records was not installed in the sheriff's office until 1927 and no records can be obtained previous to that date. In the following table is given a compilation of the causes of arrest of all persons booked in the Los Angeles County jail for the twelve months from July 1, 1927, to June 30, 1928, showing the total persons booked for each offense.

The proportion of women booked in the county jail is unusually high but is accounted for by the fact that the city police house all arrested women in the county jail.

TABLE 30. TOTAL NUMBER OF PRISONERS BOOKED IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY JAIL, BY CAUSES OF ARREST, JULY 1, 1927, TO JUNE 30, 1928, NUMBER OF MEXICAN PRISONERS, AND PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICANS REPRESENT OF TOTAL.[47]

	Total number men	*Number Mexican men*	*Per cent Mexican of total*	*Total number women*	*Number Mexican women*	*Per cent Mexican women of total*
Total	11,917	2,042	17.1	4,587	678	14.8
Offense						
Arson	27	3	11.1	6	--	---
Assault and battery	308	96	31.2	74	15	20.3
Burglary	864	153	17.7	233	25	10.7
Contributing to delinquency	48	6	12.5	22	1	4.5
Disturbing the peace	330	128	38.8	73	13	17.8
Drink	59	14	23.7	570	79	13.8
Dyer Act	66	1	1.5	1	--	---
Embezzlement	73	4	5.5	3	3	100.0
Failure to provide	379	51	13.4	6	4	66.7
Federal laws	250	22	8.8	7	2	28.6

[46] From the records of Whittier State School.
[47] From the records of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

Offense	Total number men	Number Mexican men	Per cent Mexican of total	Total number women	Number Mexican women	Per cent Mexican women of total
Forgery	653	14	2.1	87	1	1.1
Gambling	172	37	33.1	38	3	7.9
Grand larceny	1,141	194	17.0	100	11	11.1
Harrison Narcotics Act	42	10	23.8	2	--	---
Immigration	401	87	21.7	21	12	57.1
Kidnaping	25	7	28.0	8	--	---
Mann Act	24	3	12.5	17	--	---
Manslaughter	43	2	4.6	3	--	---
Motor Vehicle Act	1,747	266	15.2	64	4	6.3
Murder	72	16	22.2	15	5	33.3
Nat. Prohibition Act	260	2	.8	7	--	---
Obtaining money under false pretenses	62	5	8.1	10	1	10.0
Parole violation	457	51	11.1	27	1	3.7
Petty larceny	392	99	25.2	65	3	4.6
Prostitution	23	11	47.8	1,687	215	12.7
Rape	237	55	23.2	----	----	----
Receiving stolen property	60	8	13.3	13	2	15.4
Robbery	452	66	14.6	53	5	9.4
Sex crimes	170	18	10.6	24	5	20.8
State Prison Act	204	74	36.3	36	7	19.4
Vagrancy	225	55	24.4	160	24	15.0
Wright Act	1,576	277	17.6	901	209	23.2
Miscellaneous	1,075	207	19.2	254	28	11.0

Of the total persons booked it will be noted that Mexican men represent 17.1 per cent and Mexican women 14.8 per cent, a percentage rather higher than their estimated proportion in the population. The offenses for which they were arrested with greater frequency than the rest of the population are assault and battery, disturbing the peace, drunkenness, gambling, violations of federal and state narcotic laws, murder, petty larceny, rape, and vagrancy. The offenses which they show less tendency than the rest of the population to commit are embezzlement, forgery, obtaining money under false pretenses, receiving stolen property, manslaughter, and parole violation. Among the women fewer arrests are noted of Mexican women for prostitution. Fewer arrests are noted among the Mexicans for contributing to delinquency and failure to provide.

From the Los Angeles Police Department statistics of arrest are available from 1925. These indicate an increasing proportion of arrests of Mexicans in the city, from 14.0 per cent in 1925, 14.6 per cent in 1925–6, 16.2 per cent in 1926–7 to 18.4 per cent in 1927–8. Without definite knowledge as to population figures, not obtainable, it can not be stated whether the increase in percentage of arrests represents an increase in lawlessness or only an increase in numbers greater than that of the general population.

In 1925, 1925–6 and 1926–7 the attempt was made to tabulate the records separately for the native born and the American born Mexicans, but the accuracy of these records was questioned and the separation was not continued. A condensed classification of arrests is given for 1925, 1925–6 and 1926–7 and greater detail for 1927–8. These figures indicate in general the same emphasis shown by the sheriff's records as to drunkenness, assault and battery, disturbing the peace, vagrancy, burglary, and violations of the narcotics laws.

TABLE 31. TOTAL ARRESTS, TOTAL MEXICAN ARRESTS AND NUMBER OF NATIVE BORN MEXICANS ARRESTED BY THE LOS ANGELES CITY POLICE, BY CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENSES, WITH PERCENTAGE WHICH ALL MEXICANS AND NATIVE BORN MEXICANS REPRESENTED OF THE TOTAL, JANUARY TO JUNE, 1925, 1925-6, AND 1926-7.[48]

January–June, 1925	*Total arrests*	*Total Mexican arrests*	*Number Mexican born Mexican nativity*	*Per cent all Mexicans of total*	*Per cent Mexican born of total*
Total arrests	19,123	2,671	2,124	14.0	11.1
Offenses against					
Person	794	91	77	11.5	9.7
Chastity and the family	955	126	85	13.2	8.9
Public decency	10,304	1,280	1,016	12.4	9.9
Public health	2,829	406	349	14.3	12.3
Property	2,877	665	515	23.1	17.9
Miscellaneous	1,364	103	82	7.5	6.0
1925–1926					
Total	39,688	5,798	4,319	14.6	10.9
Person	1,656	258	194	15.6	11.7
Chastity	2,197	296	195	13.5	8.9
Public decency	22,956	3,313	2,462	14.4	10.7
Public health	5,810	790	617	13.6	10.6
Property	4,957	932	697	18.8	14.1
Miscellaneous	2,112	209	154	9.9	7.3
1926–1927					
Total	46,808	7,588	5,506	16.2	11.8
Person	1,806	303	209	16.8	11.6
Chastity	2,165	308	209	14.2	9.6
Public decency	28,697	4,971	3,597	17.3	12.5
Public health	6,798	977	769	14.4	11.3
Property	5,015	792	555	15.8	11.1
Miscellaneous	2,327	237	167	10.2	7.2

TABLE 32. TOTAL ARRESTS AND NUMBER OF MEXICANS ARRESTED BY LOS ANGELES CITY POLICE, BY CLASSIFICATION OF OFFENSES, WITH PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICANS REPRESENTED OF TOTAL, 1927-8.[49]

Crimes against	*Total arrests*	*Number Mexicans arrested*	*Per cent Mexican of total*
Total	49,307	9,093	17.5
Person			
Assault and battery	790	147	18.6
Robbery	1,652	228	13.8
Murder and manslaughter	172	22	12.8
Chastity			
Rape			
Sex offenses	2,114	281	13.3
Public decency and good morals			
Disturbing the peace	647	119	18.4
Drunkenness	12,859	2,605	20.3
Gambling and lottery	6,720	566	8.4
Vagrancy	13,436	3,406	25.3
Public health			
Narcotics	240	99	41.3
Wright Act	5,272	707	13.4
Property			
Burglary	1,658	359	21.6
Forgery and bad checks	662	1	.2
Petty theft	640	92	14.4
Grand theft	1,597	250	15.6
Evading railroad fare	848	211	24.9

Mexicans on Probation.

The number of persons on probation serves as an index of maladjustment and of the need of special effort on the part of the authorities in order to keep the probationer out of difficulties and to adjust him to a useful place in the community life. Figures of adult

[48] From Annnual Reports of Los Angeles City Police Department 1924–1925, 1925–1926, 1926–1927.

[49] From Annual Report, Los Angeles City Police Department, 1927–1928.

probation under the Los Angeles County Probation Department made no segregation of Mexicans, and no record to indicate the comparative extent of the work among the adult Mexican population could be obtained.

In the Los Angeles County Juvenile Probation Department a tabulation of active cases was made as of March, 1928, and the proportion of Mexican cases is indicated as follows:

Total number cases on probation		5,187
Boys	3,413	
Girls	1,774	
Total number Mexican children on probation		1,149
Mexican boys	648	
Mexican girls	501	
Mexican percentage of total number	boys	19%
	girls	28%

The Crime Prevention Bureau of the Los Angeles city police has a record of its probation service from which a compilation of two years' work was made by that bureau. In the fiscal year 1925–6, out of a total of 11,552 men on probation, 1310, or 11.3 per cent were Mexicans; while among a total of 4977 women, 704, or 14.1 per cent were Mexicans. During the following year the total number of men on probation was reduced to 10,596 but the number of Mexican men on probation increased to 1882, or 17.8 per cent of the total. The total number of women decreased to 4765 but the number of Mexican women increased slightly to 708, or 14.9 per cent of the total.

Juvenile Cases.

The Juvenile Bureau of the Los Angeles City Police Department handles a large number of cases relating to children, the large majority of which do not go to the juvenile court. Complaints range from dependency, incorrigibility, truancy and neighborhood rows to sex and criminal delinquency. From the following table it will be noted that during the first six months of 1925, when the present system of handling juvenile cases was installed, Mexican cases represented 18.9 per cent of the total cases, but the number of cases handled was small compared with the following year and Mexican cases were evidently given disproportionate attention. For the following three complete years Mexican cases represented 13.3, 13.1, and 12.2 per cent of all juvenile cases, a proportion fairly approximating the estimated proportion of Mexicans in the city.

TABLE 33. TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES HANDLED BY THE JUVENILE BUREAU, LOS ANGELES CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, NUMBER OF MEXICAN CASES, AND PER CENT WHICH MEXICAN CASES REPRESENTED OF THE TOTAL, FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 1925, 1925-6, 1926-7, and 1927-8. (MEXICANS INCLUDE BOTH NATIVE AND FOREIGN BORN.)[50]

	Total cases handled	*Number Mexican cases*	*Per cent Mexicans of total*
January to June, 1925	2,289	433	18.9
1925–1926	8,329	1,108	13.3
1926–1927	9,047	1,190	13.1
1927–1928	12,016	1,471	12.2

The number of arrests of Mexican juveniles, however, indicates a degree of delinquency or maladjustment exceeding that of the estimated general population. Figures for 1925–6 and 1926–7 show that

[50] From the Annual Reports of the Los Angeles City Police Department, 1925–1926, 1926–1927, 1927–1928.

of all juveniles arrested 15.9 per cent were Mexicans, but in 1927–8 the percentage rose to 17.3 per cent.

TABLE 34. TOTAL NUMBER OF JUVENILES ARRESTED BY THE LOS ANGELES CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, NUMBER OF MEXICAN JUVENILES, AND PERCENTAGE WHICH MEXICANS REPRESENTED OF TOTAL, 1925-6, 1926-7, 1927-8.[51]

Year	Total	Mexicans	Percentage Mexicans of total
1925–1926	2,914	463	15.9
1926–1927	4,133	656	15.9
1927–1928	3,996	690	17.3

An analysis of the causes for which Mexican and other juveniles were arrested in 1927–8, made by the Los Angeles City Police Department, as given in the following table, indicates that one-fourth (24.5 per cent) of all juveniles arrested for being idle and vagrant and nearly as large a proportion of those arrested for malicious mischief (22.3 per cent) were Mexican. For sex delinquency and incorrigibility fewer Mexican juveniles were arrested proportionately than on other charges.

TABLE 35. TOTAL JUVENILE ARRESTS AND NUMBER OF MEXICAN JUVENILES ARRESTED BY LOS ANGELES CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT, 1927-8, WITH TOTAL JUVENILE ARRESTS AND NUMBER OF MEXICAN JUVENILES ARRESTED, BY PRINCIPAL CAUSES.[52]

	Total juvenile arrests	Number Mexican juveniles arrested	Per cent Mexican of total
Total	3,996	690	17.3
Burglary	493	93	18.9
Delinquent child	76	12	15.8
Grand theft	525	99	18.9
Incorrigible	141	21	14.9
Malicious mischief	139	31	22.3
Petty theft	687	120	17.5
Sex delinquency	292	45	15.4
Vagrant idle	147	36	24.5
All other	1,496	233	15.6

SUMMARY

The social welfare problems of the Mexicans in California are defined largely by the fact that the Mexicans constitute the largest group of unskilled, low wage labor in the state, added to the background conditions which make them willing and desirous to come into the state to occupy that economic level. In the background are the handicaps of little or no schooling in Mexico and a lack of familiarity with English; physically, in Mexico they have lived on a meagre diet with little attention to sanitation and hygiene, which manifests itself in a high infant mortality rate and high rate for tuberculosis and other communicable diseases; and their relation to authority has been feudal, making difficult their adjustment to American traditions. Added to these handicaps is the fact that racial prejudice exists, particularly against those of non-European stock whose color, customs and habits of life differ from the American standard.

The salient points brought out in the data presented above are:

The Mexicans in California tend to live in colonies, both in urban and rural districts, and this condition slows down the process of assimilating American standards.

[51] From Annual Reports of the Police Department, City of Los Angeles, 1925–1926, 1926–1927, 1927–1928.

[52] Annual Report Los Angeles Police Department, 1927–1928.

Housing facilities available to the mass of Mexicans are frequently poor and below proper standards of sanitation.

Mexicans are frequently prohibited by sales agreements from purchasing property in any but Mexican districts.

The system of ground rent as it exists in some districts creates overcrowding and unhealthful conditions and discourages permanent sanitary improvements.

Births of Mexicans in California amounted to 17.7 per cent of all births in the state in 1929. In some of the cities near the border, Mexican births were 60 to 70 per cent of all births.

The infiltration of Mexicans in the northern part of the state is indicated by the following percentages which Mexican births represent of the total births in 1929: Amador County, 260; Contra Costa County (outside of Richmond), 19.8; Richmond, 14.7; Lassen County, 18.2; Merced County, 15.6; Placer County, 19.7; San Benito County, 18.0; Tuolumne County, 16.4. Los Angeles County, outside the incorporated cities, had 26.3 per cent Mexican births.

In the seven years from 1921 to 1927 the excess of births over deaths among the white population of the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County was only 241, while the Mexican excess of births over deaths for the same period was 4070.

In Los Angeles City for the ten-year period from 1918 to 1927 the total excess of births over deaths was 43,066, of which number 10,189, or 23.8 per cent, were Mexican.

The infant mortality rate in the unincorporated area of Los Angeles County in 1916 was 70 in 1000 births for white babies, and 285 among Mexican babies. In 1929 the white rate had been reduced to 39.6 but the Mexican rate was 104.5 in spite of great efforts on the part of the Health Department.

The Los Angeles County Health Department reports that the rate of communicable disease cases is higher among the Mexicans than among the general population. The case fatality rate (number of deaths per 100 cases) was definitely higher among the Mexicans, which the Health Department interprets as indicating a lower standard of living and care and a lower physical resistance to disease.

Olive View Sanitarium (Los Angeles County Tuberculosis Sanitarium) reports a steady percentage of about 23 of their cases to be Mexican. The number of cases makes it necessary to take largely extreme cases which should be removed from the community as foci of infection; not early, curable cases.

Of the total deaths from tuberculosis in Los Angeles County (unincorporated area) Mexican deaths represented 21.25 per cent in 1929. In the tuberculosis clinics operated by Los Angeles City, 27 per cent of the total clientele was Mexican in 1928.

Among the cases handled by the Los Angeles County Charities (study made in 1926), 23.8 per cent of all Mexican cases (families) involved tuberculosis. Among the non-Mexican cases only 10.8 per cent involved tuberculosis.

Over a three-year period, 1925–7, the Women's Venereal Clinic of the Los Angeles City Health Department reported 41.1 per cent of all its cases as Mexican.

Among cases receiving home nursing care from the Los Angeles City Division of Nursing, 29 per cent of all the cases were Mexican in 1929.

In the state hospitals for the insane, Mexicans represent only a small percentage (4.3 in 1927–8). In the state homes for the feeble-minded, the proportion has been increasing rapidly, but the percentage of total admissions (6.9 in 1927–8) is still small.

Of all orphans, half orphans, and other children receiving state aid in California, one in ten is a Mexican.

In the orphanages of the state in 1928, 7.8 per cent of the children were Mexican. In Los Angeles County one-sixth of all the children in institutions were Mexican.

The Los Angeles County Charities, which distributes practically all the relief in that county, reports that from 1923 to 1928 one-fourth of all its cases were Mexican.

Among the chest agencies of Los Angeles, five-sixths render no services to Mexicans. Those which serve Mexicans tend to give them a large part of their service.

At the Los Angeles County Farm only a small number of Mexicans are received, 3.9 per cent of the total in 1928.

In 1929–30, the Los Angeles General (County) Hospital treated 5516 Mexicans out of a total of 31,375 patients.

The Orange County Social Service Department, over a two-year period (1926–8), reported over two-fifths of their cases as Mexican.

The County Welfare and Relief Department of Riverside reports for the years 1923–8 over 30 per cent of all their cases as Mexican.

The County Welfare Department of San Diego reports for the years 1923–7 nearly a fifth of their cases as Mexican. The average amounts given per case, Mexican and non-Mexican, differ very slightly.

San Quentin Prison reports that for the twenty-one year period 1908–1929, 10.5 per cent of all prisoners received were Mexican. In Folsom Prison in 1929, 6.6 per cent of all prisoners were Mexican. At the two state correctional schools for boys, Preston and Whittier, in 1928 one-fifth and one-tenth, respectively, of all the boys were Mexican. At the same time, the private correctional schools had only 1 Mexican out of 302 boys. Grouping both public and private schools, the percentage of Mexicans was 11.8 of the total.

Few Mexican girls are sent to the Ventura State (correctional) School for girls; only 7 out of 169, in 1928. Combining public and private institutions for delinquent girls, 27.7 per cent of the total population in 1928 were Mexican.

Of all the prisoners booked at the Los Angeles County Jail during the year 1927–8, 17.1 per cent of the men were Mexican, and 14.8 per cent of the women were Mexican. Of those booked at the Los Angeles City Jail in 1925 (January to June), 14.0 per cent were Mexican; in 1925–6, 14.6 per cent were Mexican; in 1926–7, 16.2 per cent were Mexican; and in 1927–8, 17.5 per cent were Mexican.

The Los Angeles County Juvenile Probation Department reports, in 1928, 1149 Mexican children on probation out of a total of 5187, or 22.1 per cent. The Juvenile Bureau of the Los Angeles City Police Department reports a slightly decreasing percentage of Mexican juveniles on probation—13.37 per cent in 1925–6; 13.1 per cent in 1926–7; and 12.2 per cent in 1927–8, although the percentage of Mexican juveniles arrested during the same period increased from 15.9 to 17.3.

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THE MEXICAN FAMILY; ITS SIZE AND ITS INCOME

(Prepared by the Department of Industrial Relations)

In cooperation with the Conference of Friends of the Mexicans of Pomona College, the Fact-Finding Committee made a house to house survey of 788 Mexican homes in southern California.[1] Americanization teachers and social workers interviewed the heads of the Mexican families visited and filled out questionnaires through which it was attempted to secure information on the following points:[2]

1. Occupation of head of family.
2. Number of children in the family now living.
3. Number of children working, part-time or full-time.
4. Whether relatives were living with the family.
5. Whether boarders or lodgers were living with the family.
6. Sources of family income.
7. Actual incomes of the families, by months for twelve months.

The families visited were located in towns and cities such as Anaheim, Chino, Corcoran, Delano, Downey, El Centro, El Monte, Fresno, Los Angeles, Pasadena, Puente, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Fernando, San Gabriel, San Pedro, Santa Ana, Santa Monica, and Santa Paula.

The data secured from these questionnaires, which were considered most dependable and accurate, were tabulated, and are presented below.

Occupations of Heads of Families.

The occupations of the heads of families included in this survey are shown in Table 1. Reference to this table shows that of the 676 males, heads of families, for whom occupation information was secured, 480, or 72 per cent, gave their occupations as laborers, most of whom were doing agricultural work. Besides the laborers no other single occupation is especially in evidence among the numerous other occupations listed in Table 1. It is noteworthy that many Mexicans were deriving their livelihoods from such skilled and semiskilled occupations as mechanics, blacksmiths, bakers, electricians, carpenters, and boiler makers. It will be observed also that nineteen of the heads of families interviewed were merchants, in business for themselves. These were mostly store keepers, trading with Mexican families in Mexican communities.

[1] Of the 788 homes visited, 19 were homes of single persons and were not included in the tables presented in this chapter.

[2] The field work was done under the supervision of James H. Batten, Director of the Conference of Friends of the Mexicans, Pomona College, California.

TABLE 1. OCCUPATIONS OF 676 HEADS OF MEXICAN FAMILIES (MALES) IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FOR WHOM INFORMATION WAS SECURED.

Occupations	Number	Per cent of total	Occupations	Number	Per cent of total
Total	676	100.0	Drayman	1	.1
Laborers	480	71.0	Carpenter	7	1.1
Cement workers	34	5.3	Dry cleaner	2	.3
Merchants (own business)	19	2.8	Contractor work	4	.6
Gardeners	21	3.1	Boiler maker	2	.3
Rancher-farmer	20	3.0	Butcher	3	.4
Truck driver	11	1.7	Clerk	1	.1
Mechanic	10	1.5	Dairy employee	7	1.1
Blacksmith	5	.7	Tile maker	3	.4
Janitor	2	.3	Shoemaker	1	.1
Auto repair	1	.1	Trucking	4	.6
Twister	2	.3	Mail helper	1	.1
Spinner	1	.1	Garbage collector	1	.1
Mining	2	.3	Plumber assistant	1	.1
Baker	2	.3	Brick layer	3	.4
Foreman	11	1.7	Selling papers	1	.1
Minister	3	.4	Inspector	1	.1
Bookkeeper	1	.1	Rug weaving	1	.1
Electrician	4	.6	Cabinet maker	1	.1
			Dish washer	2	.3

Size of the Family.

The information secured relating to the number of children per married couple is exhibited in Table 2. A perusal of this table shows that of the total number of 769 families 43, or 5.6 per cent, had no children. Of the total number of families, the numbers who had three, four, or five children were nearly the same. Thus, 101 families reported as having three children each; 110 families, four children; and 113 families reported five children.

It will be observed that while 98 families were reported as having two children, 92 families were reported as having six children. Of the total number of families reported, 54.7 per cent had four children or less, while 45.3 per cent had five children or more. While five children is the size of the Mexican family most frequently reported, there are nearly as many families listed in the table, for whom only four or three children were reported.

The total number of children in the 726 families who were reported as having children was 3,290, or an average of 4.5 children per family. If the 769 families canvassed are considered, then the average number of children per Mexican family was 4.3.

The data here presented are not intended as a study of fecundity among Mexicans. Rather is it the purpose to present whatever dependable information was secured on the subject of the number of children per Mexican family.

TABLE 2. NUMBER AND PER CENT OF CHILDREN IN 769 MEXICAN FAMILIES IN LOS ANGELES AND OTHER COUNTIES IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, SEPTEMBER, 1928.

Number of children	Total all counties			Los Angeles County			All other counties		
	Number of families	Per cent of total	Cumulative per cent	Number of families	Per cent of total	Cumulative per cent	Number of families	Per cent of total	Cumulative per cent
Total	769	100.0		402	100.0		367	100.0	
No children	43	5.6	5.6	20	5.0	5.0	23	6.3	6.3
One child	69	9.0	14.6	36	9.0	14.0	33	9.0	15.3
Two children	98	12.7	27.3	51	12.7	26.7	47	12.8	28.1
Three children	101	13.1	40.4	54	13.4	40.1	47	12.8	40.9
Four children	110	14.3	54.7	70	17.4	57.5	40	10.9	51.8
Five children	113	14.7	69.4	59	14.7	72.2	54	14.7	66.5
Six children	92	12.0	81.4	50	12.4	84.6	42	11.4	77.9
Seven children	63	8.2	89.6	28	7.0	91.6	35	9.5	87.4
Eight children	35	4.6	94.2	16	4.0	95.6	19	5.2	92.6
Nine children	19	2.5	96.7	7	1.7	97.3	12	3.3	95.9
Ten children	16	2.1	98.8	4	1.0	98.3	12	3.2	99.1
Eleven children	8	1.0	99.8	7	1.7	100.0	1	.3	99.4
Twelve children	1	.1	99.9				1	.3	99.7
Thirteen children	1	.1	100.0				1	.3	100.0

Average Monthly Incomes.

An effort was made to secure accurate statistics of Mexican family incomes for a period of twelve consecutive months, but such information was only secured for 435 families. Data relating to the monthly incomes of 266 other Mexican families were also obtained. These data showed monthly incomes for less than twelve consecutive months. Altogether, therefore, the Fact-Finding Committee gathered figures showing monthly incomes for 701 families, and data based upon these figures are included in Table 3.

The average monthly incomes were obtained by averaging the actual monthly incomes reported for each family included in this table. It will be noted that 69.2 per cent of the families included in this table had monthly incomes of less than one hundred dollars. Eighty-four, or 12 per cent, of the 701 families, had monthly incomes of from $60 to $70. Two hundred eighteen families, or 31.2 per cent of the 701 families, had monthly incomes ranging from $70 to $100 per month; while 30.8 per cent of the families had monthly incomes in excess of $100.

TABLE 3. AVERAGE MONTHLY INCOMES DURING THE YEAR 1927, OR 1928, OF 701 MEXICAN FAMILIES IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FOR WHOM INFORMATION WAS SECURED.

Average monthly income	Number of families	Per cent of total	Cumulative per cent
Total	701	100.0	----
Less than $30	31	4.4	4.4
$30 but less than $40	23	3.3	7.7
$40 but less than $50	61	8.7	16.4
$50 but less than $60	67	9.6	26.0
$60 but less than $70	84	12.0	38.0
$70 but less than $80	70	10.0	48.0
$80 but less than $90	73	10.5	58.5
$90 but less than $100	75	10.7	69.2
$100 but less than $110	54	7.7	76.9
$110 but less than $120	24	3.4	80.3
$120 but less than $130	28	4.0	84.3
$130 but less than $140	23	3.3	87.6
$140 but less than $150	15	2.1	89.7
$150 but less than $160	16	2.3	92.0
$160 but less than $170	10	1.4	93.4
$170 but less than $180	8	1.1	94.5
$180 but less than $190	3	.4	94.9
$190 but less than $200	5	.7	95.6
$200 and over	31	4.4	100.0

Annual Incomes.

The total incomes of 435 Mexican families for twelve consecutive months, either during the calendar year 1927 or during 1927 and 1928, are shown in Tables 4 and 4a. It is interesting to note that 93, or 21.4 per cent of the 435 families, had incomes of $1,500 or more during twelve consecutive months. Forty-seven per cent of the families considered in this table had incomes of less than $1,000; while 53 per cent of the families had incomes of $1,000 or more during the twelve consecutive months for which their incomes were reported.

Table 4 shows that among the Mexican families visited there is a wide variation in their total annual incomes. About as many families had incomes from $700 to $800 as from $800 to $900, $900 to $1,000, $1,000 to $1,100, $1,100 to $1,200, and $1,200 to $1,300.

When the annual incomes for the same families are grouped by class intervals of two hundred dollars as in Table 4a, it is seen that 24.6 per cent, or the highest percentage, of families canvassed had incomes of $1,400, or more; 17.7 per cent, the next highest percentage, had incomes between $800 to $1,000; and 16.6 per cent between $1,000 to $1,200.

TABLE 4. TOTAL INCOMES IN TWELVE CONSECUTIVE MONTHS DURING 1927, OR 1927 AND 1928, OF 435 MEXICAN FAMILIES IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FOR WHOM INFORMATION WAS SECURED.

Total twelve months' income	Mexican families		
	Number	Per cent of total	Cumulative per cent
Total	435	100.0	----
Less than $300	11	2.5	2.5
$300 to $400	8	1.8	4.3
$400 to $500	22	5.1	9.4
$500 to $600	27	6.2	15.6
$600 to $700	26	6.0	21.6
$700 to $800	34	7.8	29.4
$800 to $900	38	8.7	38.1
$900 to $1,000	39	9.0	47.1
$1,000 to $1,100	36	8.3	55.4
$1,100 to $1,200	36	8.3	63.7
$1,200 to $1,300	36	8.3	72.0
$1,300 to $1,400	15	3.4	75.4
$1,400 to $1,500	14	3.2	78.6
$1,500 and over	93	21.4	100.0

TABLE 4A. TOTAL INCOMES IN TWELVE CONSECUTIVE MONTHS DURING 1927, OR 1927 AND 1928, OF 435 MEXICAN FAMILIES IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FOR WHOM INFORMATION WAS SECURED.

Total twelve months' income	Mexican families		
	Number	Per cent of total	Cumulative per cent
Total	435	100.0	---
Less than $400	19	4.3	4.3
$400 to $600	49	11.3	15.6
$600 to $800	60	13.8	29.4
$800 to $1,000	77	17.7	47.1
$1,000 to $1,200	72	16.6	63.7
$1,200 to $1,400	51	11.7	75.4
$1,400 and over	107	24.6	100.0

Children and Incomes.

The twelve months' incomes of the 435 families are tabulated in Table 5, next presented, according to the number of children in the family. This table shows that the average annual income for twelve months for all families was $1.156.15. The lowest average incomes are reported for families having no children and two children. The highest average income is reported for the ten families which were reported as having ten children each. The income of this group was $1,895. The next highest average, which was an income of $1,777.20, is reported for five families who had eleven children each.

This table shows no distinct correlation between the number of children per family and the average incomes for twelve months. Thus, while thirty-nine families, having one child, had an average income of $1,278.71, fifty-four families, having six children, had an average income of $1,225.33.

Of the 403 families, having children, for whom information as to full twelve months' incomes was secured, 142 families, or 35.2 per cent, reported 250 children working part-time or full-time, but mostly part-time. The total number of children in these 142 families was 824, and the percentage of these children working was 17.

The annual incomes reported for the 435 families were not, in all cases, derived by the head of the family only, but these incomes were

supplemented, in 142 families, by the children working part-time or full-time. Neither were these incomes the results only of wages earned by the head of the family, or by working children; but, in some cases, these incomes were derived also from rent of land or from business profits.

TABLE 5. AVERAGE INCOMES OF 435 MEXICAN FAMILIES IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FOR TWELVE MONTHS DURING 1927, OR 1927 AND 1928, COMPARED WITH THE NUMBERS OF CHILDREN IN THESE FAMILIES.

Number of children	Mexican families		Incomes for twelve consecutive months	
	Number	Per cent of total	Average	Per cent of total
Total	435	100.0	$1,156 15	100.0
No children	32	7.4	938 68	6.0
One child	39	9.0	1,278 71	9.9
Two children	58	13.3	914 91	10.6
Three children	51	11.7	1,125 78	11.4
Four children	66	15.2	1,067 33	14.0
Five children	58	13.3	1,154 86	13.3
Six children	54	12.4	1,225 33	13.2
Seven children	30	6.9	1,244 56	7.4
Eight children	22	5.1	1,451 31	6.3
Nine children	8	1.8	1,121 50	1.8
Ten children	10	2.3	1,895 20	3.8
Eleven children	5	1.2	1,777 20	1.8
Twelve children	1	.2	1,130 00	.2
Thirteen children	1	.2	1,740 00	.3

SUMMARY

The data presented in this section of the report may be summarized as follows:

1. In a house to house survey of Mexican families in southern California, many Mexicans were found to be engaged in skilled and semi-skilled occupations, such as mechanics, blacksmiths, carpenters, and electricians, although the largest number of Mexicans visited were unskilled laborers engaged in agricultural pursuits.

2. The average number of children per Mexican family visited was 4.3. Of the 769 families visited, 40.4 per cent had 3 children or less, 54.7 per cent had 4 children or less, and 45.3 per cent had 5 children or more (Table 2).

3. Of the 701 Mexican families for whom data on average monthly incomes were secured, 69.2 per cent had monthly incomes of less than $100; 20.5 per cent had average monthly incomes of $100 or more, but less than $150; 5.9 per cent had average monthly incomes of $150 or more, but less than $200; and 4.4 per cent had average monthly incomes of $200 or more (Table 3).

4. A study of the total incomes for 12 consecutive months of 435 families showed that 38.1 per cent had annual incomes of less than $1,000; 31.5 per cent had annual incomes of $1,000 or more, but less than $1,500; and 21.4 per cent had annual incomes of $1,500 or more.

5. The average annual income for 435 Mexican families for whom information was secured was $1,156.15. Of the 403 families, having children, for whom information was secured as to annual incomes, 142 families, or 35.2 per cent, reported 250 children working part-time or full-time, but mostly part-time.

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